

Project | SEARCH BLACKPOOL

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Primary objective:

To secure competitive employment for
people with learning difficulties and/or
autism

Over **65%** of adults with a learning disability **want** to work but **only 6%** known to their local authority in England are in paid work.



Overview

- We are a supported internship programme based at Blackpool Council.
- Interns are 16-24 years old with a learning difficulty and/or autism who have a **passion to work**.
- 10 – 12 interns every academic year.
- Job Coaches support interns to complete 3 work placements.

Job coaching

- Individualised on the job coaching
- Coaches learn the role first and transfer these skills onto the intern using systematic instruction
- Support is tapered over the weeks to encourage independence
- Coaches can offer staff training where appropriate

An intern's typical day (Mon – Fri)

09.00 – 10.00: Class, Bickerstaffe

10.00 – 10.30: Travel to the workplace

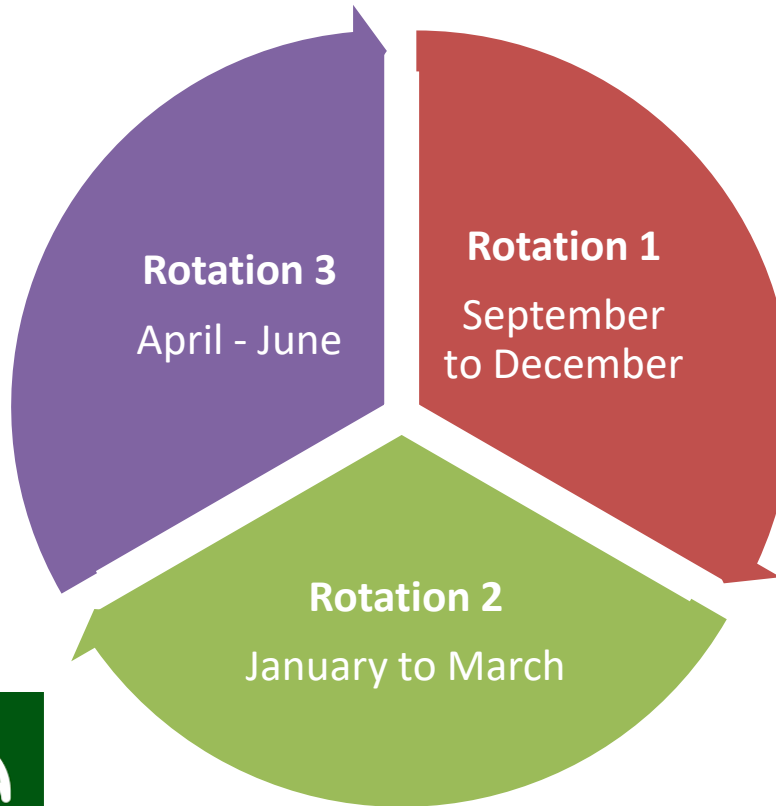
10.30 – 15.00: Work placement

15.00 – 15.30: Travel to Bickerstaffe

15.30 – 16.00: Feedback with Project Search staff



Sainsbury's



Blackpool Coastal
Housing





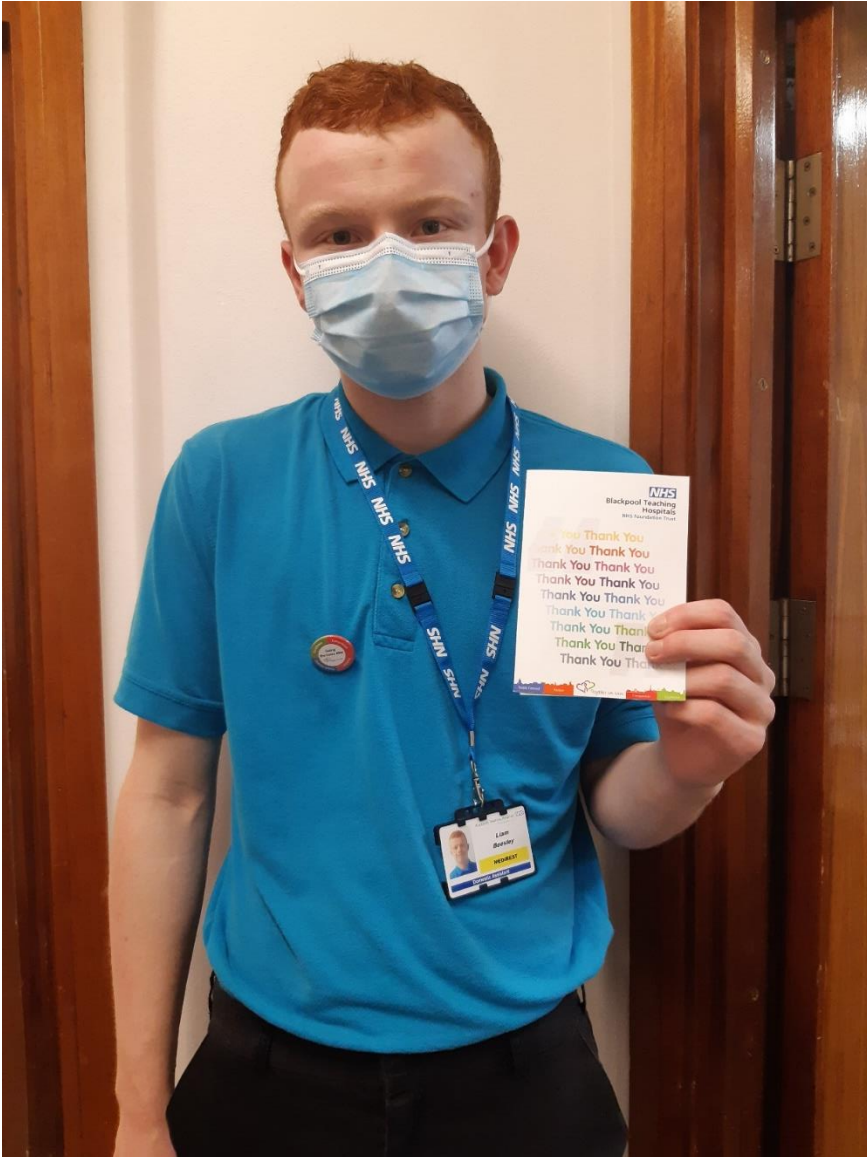
Benefits of the Project Search model for interns

- Participate in 3 work placements with a variety of local businesses
- Gain competitive, transferable job skills
- Increased confidence and resilience
- Receive individualised job coaching, instruction and feedback

Benefits of the Project Search model for employers

- Play a role in transforming young people's lives.
- Access to a frequently overlooked talent pool.
- Skill matched interns provide a supportive role, particularly in repetitive jobs that can be difficult to recruit to/retain staff in.
- Encourages a diverse workplace.
- Boosts corporate social responsibility and demonstrates commitment to inclusivity.
- People with a learning disability stay in their job 3.5 times longer than their non-disabled co-workers*
- 87% of consumers would prefer to give their business to companies that hire people with disabilities**

Success stories



Contact

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