



AN INTRODUCTION TO

# SUPPORTED INTERNSHIPS

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Part of the SEMLEPCommunity of Practice Resources

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## WHAT IS A SUPPORTED INTERNSHIP?

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Supported Internships are a type of study program for 16 to 24 year olds with Special educational Needs or an Education Health and care plan who wish to move into employment and need support to do so.

They are a work based learning placement which means the learner will do the majority of their learning in the work setting.

Within that setting there is a Job Coach who will actively guide the learner and develop strong partnerships with the employer and the college in order to support the success of the placement



## WHY ARE THEY IMPORTANT?

Supported internships are important as they provide the best possible support for both the Learner and the Employer.

For the learner, a Supported Internship is an opportunity to learn the job they want to do with help from the Job Coach.

The Job Coach also supports the employer to make adjustments to the role if required and to better understand and communicate the needs of the learner.





## WHAT DOES THE INDIVIDUAL GAIN?

The ultimate goal for all Supported Internships is paid employment.

However, if this is not possible then the learner will gain valuable work experience which they can use to find an alternative opportunity.

The learner can also achieve qualifications that relate to the job they want to do.

This is called industry specific training and can be things like Food hygiene training, basic typing, health and safety or even fork lift truck training.

Learners will also gain:

- Experience of working as part of a team
- Experience communicating with work colleagues
- Travel training if required.

## WHAT DOES THE BUSINESS GAIN?

Supported Internships are a great way to recruit new staff.

Firstly, it's free to the employer and there are no hidden costs or long funding applications for businesses to complete.

A job coach is provided to ensure the learner has the best possible chance to learn the role and this means businesses don't have to get someone from their own team to provide the learning.

Supported Internships act as an extended work interview maximising the chances of getting the right person for the job.

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# HOW DOES MY BUSINESS GET INVOLVED?

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To find out more please contact us with the details below to see how you can make a life changing difference.

For Northamptonshire:

Contact Name - Alistair Campbell.

Email [Alistair.campbell@nass.uk.net](mailto:Alistair.campbell@nass.uk.net).

For further details please visit [www.track.org.uk/community](http://www.track.org.uk/community)

