

Greenwich Supported Internship Programmes 2025-26

**A complete guide, Q&A and supporting information
regarding our DFN Project Search Supported Internship
Programmes in the Royal Borough of Greenwich**



What is the DFN Project Search Supported Internship Programme?

A Supported Internship Programme acts as a bridging year between education and paid employment lasting 12 months. It is for young people with an Educational Health & Care Plan (EHCP) who require extra support to be work ready. Usually, the interns will be based in a host business for a year and have the opportunity to try out three different work rotations in that time. There will be real jobs where the interns can develop their employability skills and understanding of what they would like to do in the future.

A whole on-site team of people will work with the interns to help them to be ready to enter the world of work at the end of the programme. These include a Tutor who will help the intern towards Employability skills, English and Maths qualifications at an appropriate level; A Job Coach who will help the interns learn the job role in each work rotation by breaking the task down into small steps until the intern can carry out their work independently; A business Liaison representative from the host business who helps the team find rotations that match each intern's aspirations and work mentor in each department.



What will the intern gain from the Supported Internship Programme?

The aim for each intern on all programmes is to achieve long term paid employment of 16+ hours/week. They will also achieve the following:

- Employability Skills Qualification
- Confidence
- Support after the programme ends to gain and remain in employment
- An understanding of professional behaviour
- A comprehensive CV
- Interview skills

Eligibility for Greenwich Supported Internship Programme

To be able to apply for Greenwich Supported Internship Programme you must:

- Have an Education Health and Care Plan
- Age 16 – 24 years old
- Be an independent traveller – or willing to undergo travel training
- Motivated to work
- Willing to work 16 hours or more after completing the programme.
- Live in the borough.
- Not be in employment prior to the programme.
- Have not completed any other Supported Internship Programme prior to applying.

What a typical day in rotation looks like?

- The interns will attend lessons with the tutor in the base room at the Host Business every morning from 9am to 10 am.
- They will then be in their rotation from 10:30 am until 3:30pm
- End the day with daily reflection with the tutor and peers.



Special-needs@royalgreenwich.gov.uk

Tel: 0208 921 8029

Our Programmes

Queen Elizabeth Hospital - Lewisham and Greenwich NHS Trust

This Internship Programme is facilitated in partnership with Lewisham and Greenwich NHS Trust. The intern will undertake rotations at the Queen Elizabeth Hospital site.

Current rotation opportunities:

- Catering Front of house
- Catering Back of house
- Pharmacy
- Linen
- Library
- Recruitment



Berkeley Homes

This Internship Programme is facilitated in partnership with Berkeley Homes. The intern will undertake rotations at the Berkeley Homes site.

Current rotation opportunities:

- Finance
- Admin
- Barista
- Logistics
- Library Assistant
- Childcare
- Concierge



Royal Borough of Greenwich

This is an exciting new Supported Internship Programme and had its first round of interns in 2025. The intern will undertake rotations in the Royal Borough of Greenwich site.

Potential rotations include:

- Admin
- Post Room Assistant
- Reception & Customer Service
- Library Assistant
- Logistics
- Maintenance Technician
- Transport Assistant



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What is DFN Project Search?

Project Search is an international transition to work programme committed to transforming the lives of young people with learning disabilities and autism. They provide a model of delivery used for our internships.

You can find more information on this website:

<https://www.dfnprojectsearch.org>

Will I be paid during internship?

No, you will not be paid. You will receive the education, help and support you need to gain a paid job on completion of the internship.

Will there be support available for travel training?

We can organise travel training to help interns learn new routes to their placement. Should you be interested please contact your school, college or local authority travel assistance team prior to starting the programme.

What is expected from families?

We expect the parent/carer to support each young person by ensuring they are dressed appropriately and leave on time. You will also be invited to attend regular meetings and events so you can be an active part of your young person's progression towards employment.

Do you have to get a job at the end?

We expect all applicants to want to find long term paid employment of 16+ hours per week on completion of the programme.

How will I pay for travel?

If you do not have a Freedom Pass please apply for one. If you are not eligible for a Freedom Pass please apply for an 18+ Student Oyster Card to receive reduced fares whilst attending the programme.

Is there any financial support available during this course?

You may be able to apply for a college bursary if the young person is in receipt of eligible benefits and holds their own bank account. Please be aware the young person can receive Universal Credit alongside PIP, do enquire with the Job Centre about this.

Am I guaranteed a job?

No, we cannot guarantee a job however, many of our interns have successfully progressed into paid work or gone on to apprenticeships or traineeships. You will receive job coaching support after the programme finishes to help assist you to apply for jobs, and attend interviews. The support will continue if you are successfully employed, to settle into your new role.

For Further Information

If you have any further questions, queries or would like further information, please do not hesitate to email or contact

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Our Partners & Stakeholders



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