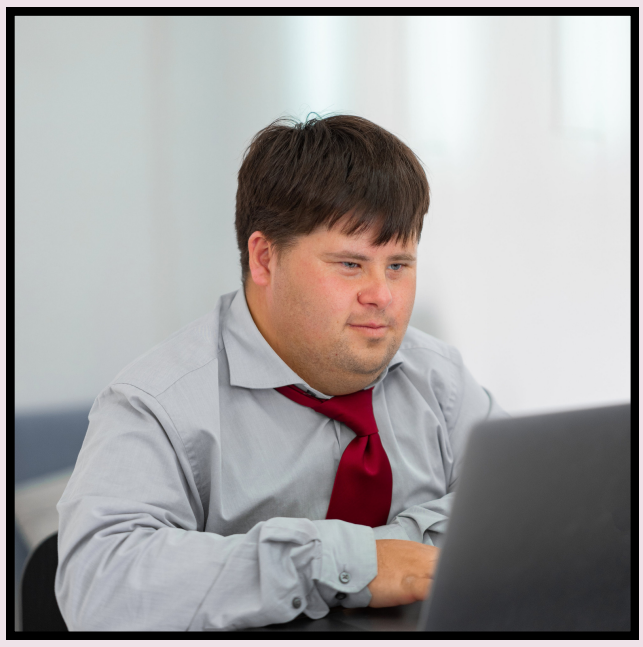
What is a Supported Internship?









A short, easy read guide for young people

Essex County Council

Education for young people aged 16-24



Many young people with learning difficulties or learning disabilities want to get a job. It can be hard for them to get a job.



Young people with more severe learning disabilities often find it very hard to get a job.



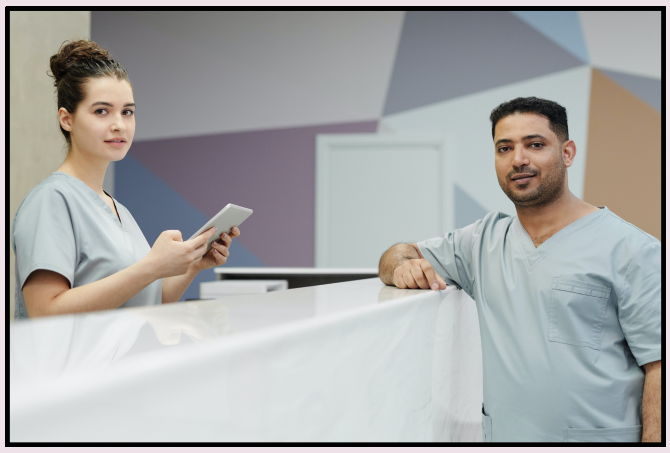
All young people, including those with an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP) can stay in education to do a study programme.



A study programme is a course that will help you:

- get a job and live on your own
- get qualifications if that is what you need
- with maths and English so you can use them in real life

What are Supported Internships?



Supported internships can be a good way of of having a study programme that helps you to get a job.







A supported internship could be the right choice if you learn best by ‘doing’.

You do most of your learning at work and some in college so you ‘learn on the job’.



The most important thing is that you want to get paid work.

Supported internships are all about working towards a paid job.

How can I find out about Supported Internships where I live?



You can find out about supported internships from

- school
- college
- your social or transition worker
- Job Centre Plus



You can email the Targeted Employment team for information or scan the QR code.

targetedemployment@essex.gov.uk

Advice for young people

Help for when you feel ready to make decisions about your support, think about jobs, where to live and plan for the future

Essex County Council has a Local Offer on the internet. This will tell you what is available locally, including what help there is to get a paid job.

When should I tell people I want a Supported Internship?



As soon as you think you might want a supported internship you should talk to your teacher or your transition worker.

This could be at your Year 9 or 10 review when you are thinking about work and work experience.

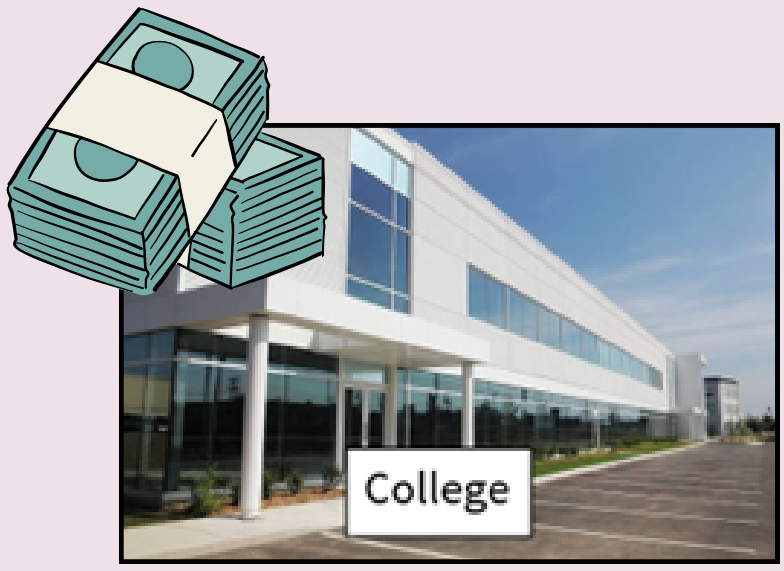
How do I know if a Supported Internship programme is good?



Supported internships have guidelines and checks to make sure that programmes are well-organised and provide you with the right support. This is called SIQAF.

If a supported internship follows this guidance it means that the programme is providing the best experience possible for you as a supported intern.

How can I get the funding and will it affect my benefits?



If you are aged 16 to 24 and have an Education, Health and Care Plan, then colleges can use their funding for your supported internship.

Access to Work
Making work possible

You might also be able to get extra money called Access to Work (you will have to fill in an application form). This money is for your support to go to work.



You will still be able to get benefits for your day to day life.

If you want more information about benefits and funding you should talk to your local Job Centre, school, college, or transition worker. They will also be able to help you work out how paid work will affect your benefits.

Can young people with learning difficulties or disabilities really get paid jobs?



Yes they can!

You can watch a video here:
Supported Internships

(https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jUckNGkKmmo)

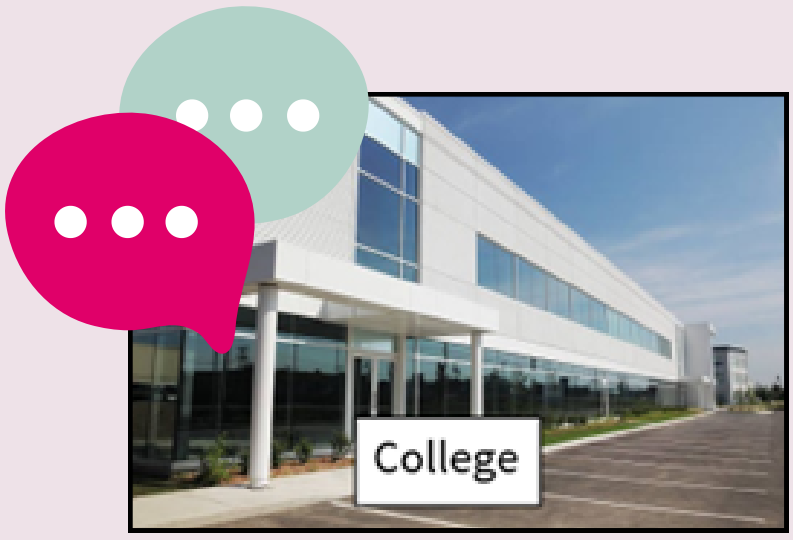
How does it work?



Marcia is 16 and in Year 11 at school.

She found out about supported internships from her transition worker.

They talked about it at her Year 10 review in school.



In February, Marcia went with her Mum to an information evening at the local college where she heard from other young people who had been on a supported internship.

She thought it sounded great and decided that's what she wanted to do!



In March, Marcia and her Mum went to a meeting at college to talk about the supported internship programme.

Marcia had to show that she really wanted to get a job and that she would stick at the internship.



In June, Marcia and her Mum met a job coach called Vicky.

She helped Marcia think about all the things she is good at, the things she knows about and what her dreams for the future are.

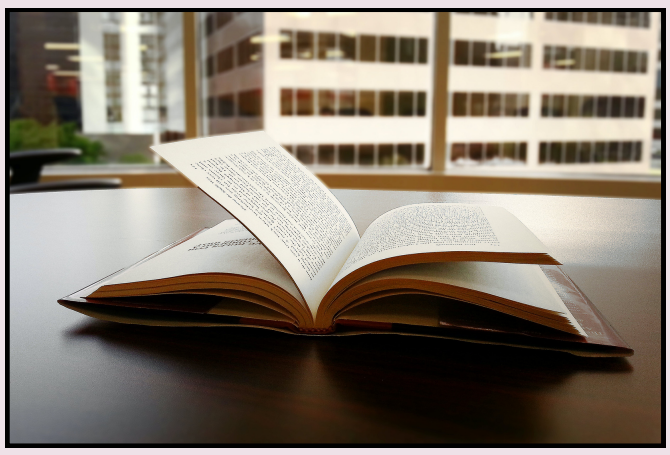


Marcia loves helping people and has always dreamed of being a nurse.

Vicky helped Marcia think about the things that she was good at that could help her to have a job in a hospital.



Vicky and Marcia talked about the things she wanted to learn about at college. They agreed that Marcia would work on understanding money better...



...keep working on her reading...



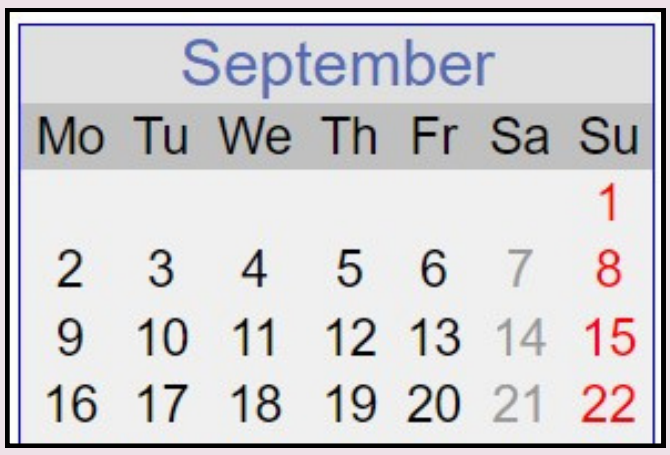
....and that she would learn to use the bus to get to her work placement and to college.



At the hospital she will have the chance to learn about different jobs. The first thing Marcia wants to learn is how to take someone's temperature.



She also wants to practice talking to different people.



Marcia's supported internship starts in **September**...



....and ends the following **July**.











Marcia will spend one day a week at college.

She will work 2 days a week at her local hospital as this is the right number of days for her.

Some interns also work during the college holidays. This would be agreed with you before you start your supported internship.





Vicky will keep supporting Marcia at the hospital and in college. They will keep talking about the things that Marcia needs to learn about at college or at work. **They will keep working towards Marcia getting a paid job.**

If you are the parent, guardian or supporter of a young person with learning difficulties or disabilities, you can find out more about supported internships from the Essex Local Offer

(https://send.essex.gov.uk/advice-young-people/help-finding-work/different-ways-employment)

or by emailing: targetedemployment@essex.gov.uk

Essex County Council