



Supported Internships

Work experience based study programmes for young people aged 16-24 years with an Education, Health and Care Plan, and preparing for employment



Delivering on behalf of



Unlock your potential >>>>

Our Supported Internships offer a blend of classroom learning and work placements.

What is a Supported Internship?

Our Supported Internships offer a life-changing journey that bridges education and employment.

Dive into real work experiences, build skills and pave your path to success.

Who can do a Supported Internship?

Specifically designed for young adults with Special Educational Needs and/or Disabilities (SEND), our team of lecturers and pastoral team members are experienced in supporting and developing individuals to achieve personalised goals and progress in life and work.

Benefits of a Supported Internship

- 01. Receive expert support**
Get guidance and support from dedicated lecturers.
- 02. Get hands-on learning**
Spend 70% of your time in a workplace setting.
- 03. A tailored programme**
Personalised study plans to match goals and abilities.
- 04. Career boosting benefits**
Transform your future with our Supported Internship programme.



What is involved in a Supported Internship?

Our Supported Internships include customised sessions in maths and English, alongside career development skills designed to build skills for employment for each individual learner.

Learners will also engage in work placements with employers, to support and underpin their transition into the workforce.

Why choose Northumberland Skills?

- Build confidence
- Improve well-being
- Form friendships
- Gain real-world skills

Working in partnership

Northumberland Skills delivers a wide range of full and part-time courses, Supported Internships, apprenticeship training and employability programmes on behalf of Northumberland County Council.

We work with DFN Project SEARCH, which is a transition to work programme committed to transforming the lives of young adults with a learning disability and autism or both.



Secure your place now

Courses start in September at campuses across Northumberland

Progress towards employment >>>>

Supported Internships provide the opportunity for young people to achieve sustained, paid employment by equipping them with the skills they need for work, through learning in the workplace.

Supported interns are in full-time education and their Supported Internship work placements are part of their course. There is no legal requirement or expectation that the supported intern will be paid. Supported internships are exempt from the National Minimum Wage regulation.

Supported Internships last for a minimum of 6 months, and up to a year.

Long term goals

The Supported Internship should contribute to the long-term career goals of each young person and match their capabilities. Alongside their time with the employer, supported interns complete a personalised study programme delivered by our team at Northumberland Skills, which includes the chance to study for relevant qualifications, if appropriate, and English and maths at an appropriate level.

Coaching and support

Every young person is supported in the work placement to ensure they have in-work support that tapers off, if appropriate, as the supported intern becomes familiar with their role. The aim of this is to work alongside employers, increasing their confidence in employing individuals with additional needs and helping them to create a diverse workforce.



Open event



Join us at our Skills Day event

Meet the team and find out all about Supported Internships with us from September at our Skills Day on:

Monday 13th May, from 4-7pm at Morpeth Leisure Centre.



Shaping your future >>>>

There are numerous options available for young people looking to gain qualifications, skills and confidence to move into work, volunteering opportunities or further education.

Here, we explain how Supported Internships fit into the mix.



What is the difference between a Supported Internship and a traineeship or apprenticeship?

Supported internships and traineeships are work-based study programmes that aim to support young people into employment. Apprenticeships are paid jobs that include off-the-job training.

Supported Internships are specifically for young people with an EHC plan, and as such, they are expected to require a different level of support compared to a trainee or apprentice. They will have a job coach to support them in their workplace learning.

Supported interns are expected to need a longer programme than a trainee. Traineeships usually last between 6 weeks and 6 months with the aim of progressing people to an apprenticeship or employment as quickly as possible.

Entry requirements

There are no entry or completion requirements for supported internships, other than being aged 16-24 years and having an EHCP. We will work with each supported intern to develop a personalised programme that meets their needs, and provides progression and stretch.

Progression and careers

Following the successful completion of your Supported Internship, you may progress onto an apprenticeship, further education, or employment.

Get in touch

For more information or to speak to a member of the team about Supported Internships, contact: learn@northumberland.gov.uk





Find out more about our SEND Local Offer at:
northumberlandskills.co.uk/local-offer



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