

## All about Project SEARCH at The Whittington Hospital

### Where is The Whittington Hospital?



The supported internship is based at The Whittington Hospital in North London.

This means you would come here every day, Monday to Friday, five days a week.

The closest underground station is Archway, which is on the Northern Line.

### What is a Supported internship?



A supported internship is a transition to work programme.

It is for young people who want to gain work experience and develop their skills to be able to get a job.

### Who is the internship for?



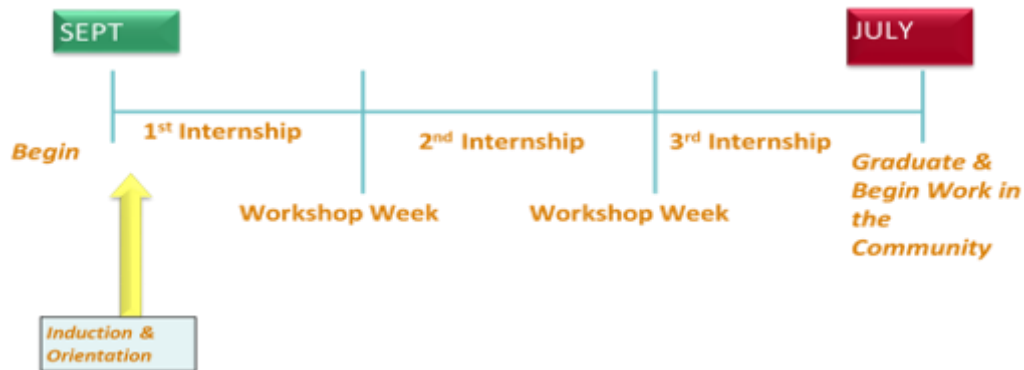
This programme is for young people who:

- have an EHCP (Education, Health & Care Plan)
- are 16-25 years old
- have autism and/or a learning disability
- can travel independently
- want to get a paid job.

## The programme year

The internship programme follows the college calendar which means you will still have half term, Christmas and Easter breaks off.

You will need to attend the internship Monday to Friday between 9:30am and 3:30pm.



## What part of the hospital is the internship based?



Interns work across different parts of the hospital. However, we have a base room on the 1<sup>st</sup> floor of the Old Nurse's home which is building 28 on the hospital map.

<https://www.whittington.nhs.uk/document.ashx?id=604>

This is the room you will come to in the morning (9:30am - 10:30am) and again at the end of the day (3:00pm - 3:30pm).

These are two photographs of our base room.

On our floor we have a kitchen with microwaves, a fridge and a kettle so you can bring your lunch in with you if you like.

Our base room has 8 computers, a smart board and iPads to help you learn.



### What is the daily timetable?

- 9:30am The day starts at the base room. You will then work towards an employability qualification and learn soft skills to help you find and keep a job. Topics we cover include management, maintaining good physical and mental health and interview skills. This will be led by the teacher.
- 10:30-3pm You will work in your placement in the hospital. You will have an hour for lunch during this time. A job coach will support you throughout the day.
- 3-3:30pm Everyone meets back at the base room for a review. This is a chance for everyone to talk about their day.
- 3:30pm Home time.

### What qualifications will I gain? Will I do English and maths?



During the morning session, you will work towards an OCN accredited employability qualification.

The level you work on will depend on what suits you best.

This qualification covers topics such as presentation skills, health and safety in the workplace and financial literacy.

Depending on your job goals, you can also work towards industry recognised qualifications such as Fire Safety Awareness or Food Hygiene.

There are no separate Maths and English qualifications. Instead, you will work on your English and Maths skills whilst completing your employability qualification and during your placements. For example, learning how to send formal emails or deliver a presentation.



## What jobs can you do in the hospital?



The hospital has lots of different departments. We will help match you to a job that is suited to your strengths and your interests.

Some examples of the departments you could work in and the tasks you would do are:

### Facilities:

- being a porter - moving patients and equipment between wards
- recycling centre - sorting recycling, compressing cardboard and using machinery
- house-keeping - cleaning wards, clinics and non-patient areas.

### Infection control:

- auditing public areas to ensure it is safe
- putting up safety and information posters
- reporting health and safety issues.

### Retail and customer service:

- Working in the hospital shop
- serving customers
- answering questions and offering help
- restocking shelves
- using the till to process payments.

### Admin (in different departments and wards)

- checking patients in at reception
- preparing patient files for clinics
- answering phone calls.

In the photos, you can see some of our previous interns working hard in their departments.

## Finding a job at the end of the programme



We will help you to create a CV and apply for jobs. We will also help you prepare for interviews.

We can help you look and apply for jobs in the hospital and outside of the hospital.

If required, we will help you create an application to 'Access to Work' when you get a job offer.

If you do not find a job at the end of the programme, Springboard will continue to support you.

## Who will support you?



### **Gemma - Teacher**

Gemma has over 10 years' experience working with young people and adults with additional needs and autism in further education and the charity sector.

She joined Ambitious College in 2018 as a teacher at CONEL Campus, before moving to work at The Whittington Hospital.



### **Stacia - Job coach**

Stacia has a background in both support work, working within residential and supported living settings, and education that specialise in supporting people with autism and learning disabilities.

Stacia joined Ambitious College at the CONEL campus as a learning and behaviour specialist, where she worked for two years, before joining the Supported internships programme at the Whittington.

**Quotes about our programme:**



“This programme has taught me loads. I have gained real work experience and skills that will help me find a job. I have met lots of new people at the hospital and my confidence has grown.”

**Michael, current intern**

“Mikey has been a great support on the ward and has helped make it safer through direct and indirect patient care. He also helped on reception, filed patient discharge notes and served lunch, all with a smile on his face.”

**Ray, Ward Manager**

“The support that Michael has received has been outstanding. Early in the programme, it was identified where his strengths lay and areas where he needed extra support. He has also been encouraged from day one to have more confidence in himself and decision-making. He has been working towards independence, which we are delighted to see more and more.”

**Sandra, Michael’s mum**

We are recruiting for September 2020. If you have not yet applied, the good news is we are still taking applications. You can apply by contacting our admissions team who will send you an application. Once we have your application, you will be invited to a virtual interview and assessment. If you have any further questions, please do not hesitate to contact us.

We look forward to hearing from you.

If you wish to make an application contact Admissions on:

[admissions@ambitiousaboutautism.org.uk](mailto:admissions@ambitiousaboutautism.org.uk)

You can also find further information on our website:

<http://ambitiouscollege.org.uk/supported-internships>