

# Step by Step Guide To Work Experience 2020



Make it count - make the right choice for you!

This booklet has been designed for both students and parents to use as a reference guide for the preparation of the Year 10 Work Experience Programme.

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### Year 10 Work Experience Programme

#### **Tupton Hall School**

Work Experience in Year 10 is a compulsory one week programme. It is an important part of becoming 'workplace-ready', "building useful skills that cannot be taught in the classroom as well as contacts that students otherwise would not be exposed to".

"A prospective employer will always look favourably on the effort taken by those who have done work experience, which empowers new talent and gives them an edge to push for the most sought after positions in the field".

Work Experience equips you with certain soft skills such as team working, communication skills and commercial awareness, all of which are sought after by employers and universities.

Work Experience also helps you to differentiate yourself, an important factor when competition for jobs is so fierce.

Work experience also equips you with knowledge that will enhance your job applications and interviews. Because you've gained a better understanding of the sector you want to go into, you'll be able to talk more authoritatively and ask questions that resonate with a potential employer.

One of the great things about gaining work experience as a student is that it gives you the chance to try things out to see if they suit you. Want to find out what a company is actually like to work for, or what doing a certain job is like? The organisation of a work experience placement can answer these crucial questions and prepare you fully for the next steps in your educational journey.

#### Work Experience will take place for one week

w/c Monday 29 June 2020 to Friday 3 July 2020

### Why should I do Work Experience?

All students must remain in some form of training or education until the age of 18. This means that students at 16 years of age no longer have the option to get a job or to stay at home.

However, there are now many different options available to students at Post 16.

This may be the first time students have had to make a decision about what future career path they wish to take:

Here are some of the options open to students:

- Attend Sixth Form select 3/4 A-Level subjects that will support future career choices
- Enrol at a further education or specialist college choosing either academic qualifications such as A-Levels, GCSEs or vocational courses that will support future career ambitions
- Apply for a work based learning apprenticeship which will allow you to earn while you learn as well as supporting future career ambitions

It can be a very difficult choice for students to make due to the fact that many students will have little or no experience in the world of work.

Work Experience can help students to explore the different career paths they may be interested in.

It will help students to think about their personal skills and abilities and how they relate to a particular job.

Obtaining work experience is an essential part in securing your next step choices. This applies for applications to sixth form, colleges and apprenticeships. If you are thinking of applying to university in the future, work experience will form an important part of your UCAS personal statement.

#### Work experience can also help students:

- Understand how the world of work operates
- Learn to cope with new situations
- Learn and develop new skills
- To take responsibility for their actions and behaviour
- To appreciate the mental and physical demands of work
- Develop employability skills
- Secure references for the future
- Promote personal and social development

### **Choosing your Work Experience Placement**

Some students may have already decided on a career path and know what their dream job is. These students can use work experience to confirm these interests.

However, many students may not know where to start.

### Things to consider:

- Subjects you enjoy or do well in
- Hobbies you enjoy
- General interests
- Careers where there is currently a skills shortage
- Travel arrangements

You will need to research the above factors to identify jobs you may be interested in. Remember, Work Experience isn't just about your future dream job but is about learning new skills and being in the workplace.

### **Don't cheat yourself!**

We want you to have a positive and beneficial experience, so make sure you do your homework and secure a place that is right for you.

### Finding a Work Experience Placement

We encourage students to find their own placements. However, support will be given to any student who has difficulty with this.

#### Resources available:

### **Derbyshire County Council Work Experience Database**

This is a database of employers that have accepted work experience students in the past. You can search and print out information from this site but you will not be able to apply through the site. Each employer lists a job description and how they would like to be contacted eg letter of interest, telephone call, etc.

Work Experience placements will be in high demand, so get in there first and secure your placement to avoid any disappointment.

This is not the only place you should look. Use the following websites to explore different opportunities and companies in your area to ensure you get the best placement for you...

- ⇒ www.nationalcareersservice.direct.gov.uk
- ⇒ www.yell.com
- ⇒ www.google.com
- ⇒ www.thomsonlocal.com

### **Important Documents**



#### Letter of understanding from Derbyshire County Council

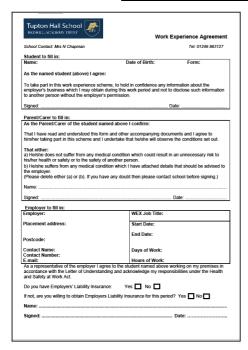
This letter must be given to the employer that will be taking you on for your work experience. It explains to the employer their legal responsibility to you.

### Introduction letter to the employer

This letter should be handed to the employer when first approaching them about work experience. It explains the length of the work experience, the date that it commences and the positive impact it can have on a young person. The letter also explains the requirement of a health and safety check and Employer Liability Insurance.



### **Important Documents**



## The Work Experience Agreement Form

This form is to be completed once the employer has agreed to take you on for Work Experience.

#### Section 1:

Must be completed by **you** 

#### Section 2:

Must be completed by your parent or carer

#### Section 3:

Must be completed by the **employer** 

The fully completed agreement form **must** be handed into student services by Friday 27 March 2020.

Without this form your placement cannot be put forward for a health and safety check and your placement will not be authorised.

The sooner you can get this form back the sooner we can confirm the health and safety check and approve your work experience placement.

Students can obtain further hard copies of each of these documents from Student Services. However, forms and letters can be found on the school website.

#### Location and Access

Please use the Derbyshire Work Experience website:

http://derbyshire.work-experience.co.uk



The above is the login page, details of how to login are as follows:

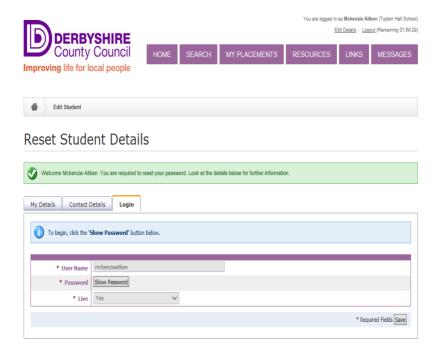
Your username is your first name and last name, lowercase with no spaces.

Your password is individual to you, this is provided by your Form Tutor in school.

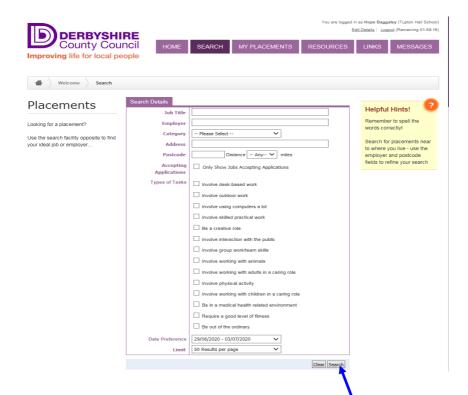
On the next page as below you can reset your password. This should be changed to something you will easily remember but you must keep this confidential.

On this page you can search for jobs, look at 'my placements', 'resources', 'links' and 'messages'.

Try toggling through these options to familiarise yourself with the website. Then click on search to start looking.

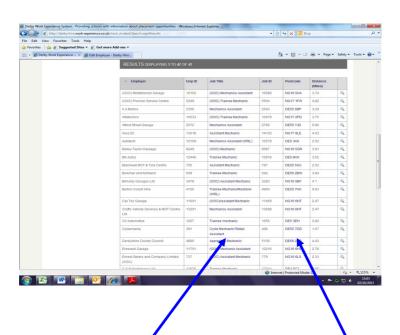


On the page below you can search for employers by entering either a job title, employer name, category (use the drop down box to see available categories), address, postcode and distance from postcode and by the type of tasks that may be involved in the job.



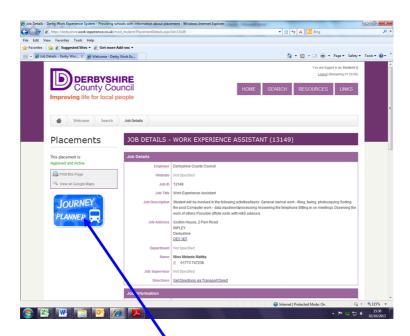
Once you have entered the relevant details click 'search'.

The next page as below will then list any business on the Derbyshire Work Experience website database that matches the criteria you have searched for.



Click on the 'job title' for further details of the job or 'postcode' to see the exact location of the employer on Google maps.

On the page as below specific job details are listed.



You can use 'journey' planner' to plan your journey to and from the placement.

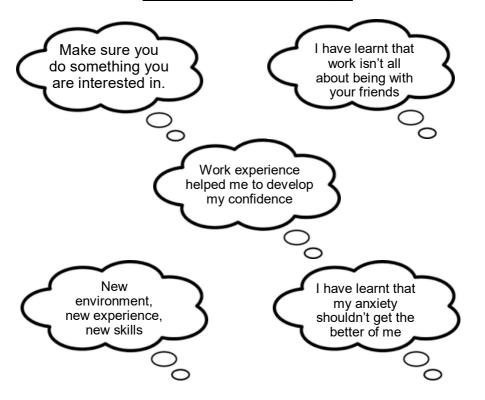
If you want to save this placement, then scroll down to the bottom of the screen and click 'wish list' to add it to your wish list.

If you would like to secure this placement you would need to contact the employer and discuss the possibility of this and follow the procedure that has been explained to you.

### Some ideas to get you thinking



### What did students say?



### Remember:

The work experience agreement form needs to be signed by you, your parent/carer and by the employer. Once all three parties have signed this form it needs to be handed into student service so it can processed.

Without this paperwork the placement **cannot** be approved.



Careers and Work Experience advice is available in school.

To find out more or ask any questions contact school on: 01246 863127

enquiries@tuptonhall.org.uk

www.tuptonhall.org.uk

Twitter @TuptonCareers