

WORK EXPERIENCE

Are you in a position to provisionally offer a work experience placement in your organisation and help a student to define their career path?

Subject to government guidelines and the latest health and safety measures that may be in place, we are currently looking for high quality placements for our voluntary work experience programmes for students in Year 12 (4th - 8th September 2023)

We are in search of employers and organisations that could help our students to gain insight and experience within a range of sectors prior to making applications to further education, apprenticeships or employment.

Voluntary placements with local businesses and employers offer students invaluable insight into the world of work and what it takes for a business to be sustainable. Students benefit enormously, picking up new, transferable skills and attributes and gaining confidence and industry knowledge. Further details, including information about health and safety considerations and insurance cover are provided below.

If you think you could help, please contact Mrs Oakley
s.oakley@overtongrange.sutton.sch.uk

What is Work Experience?

A placement with an employer in which a young person carries out a range of tasks in much the same way as an employee, with the emphasis on learning from the experience. Work experience provides opportunities for learning about the skills, behaviours, careers, roles and structures that exist within a workplace.

Is Work Experience of benefit to employers?

Apart from making a real difference to a young person's working life, offering work experience is beneficial to employers for a number of reasons:

- Recruitment opportunities
- Staff development
- A more engaged workforce
- Engagement in the local community
- Contribution to economic development in the local area.

How do students benefit from a Work Experience placement?

Work experience supports young people to make career decisions, develop employability skills and support successful transition into FE, HE, apprenticeships and the workplace.

- More confidence
- Improved self esteem
- Ability to communicate with adults
- Improved timekeeping
- Additional practical work skills



- Team working
- Problem solving skills
- Time management and organisation
- Clarifies job roles within industry
- Broadens horizons in relation to career routes and job roles available

What type of work can students do?

There are very few occupational placements that are prohibited to a student. The emphasis is always on trying to provide an interesting and well balanced placement with real tasks accompanied by real responsibility. In some cases, legislation imposes restrictions on the type of work which students can do, these restrictions are designed to protect students from harm through tasks that are unsuitable for them. Due to a student's inexperience and age, some tasks may only be completed under strict supervision or may, in exceptional circumstances, be observation only. If you are in any doubt, clarification should be sought from the school.

What Insurance Cover is required?

Students on a work experience placement are treated as employees for the purposes of insurance against bodily injury. Therefore, the employer must have 'Employers Liability Insurance' in place.

