



Context



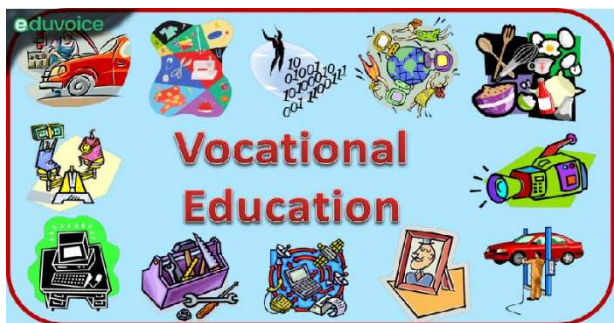
Ellesmere College is a large Special School in the heart of the city of Leicester catering for up to 426 young people aged 5-19 with a wide range of SEND. The above qualities underpin our curriculum and ethos. We train our young people to leave us with all of those qualities.



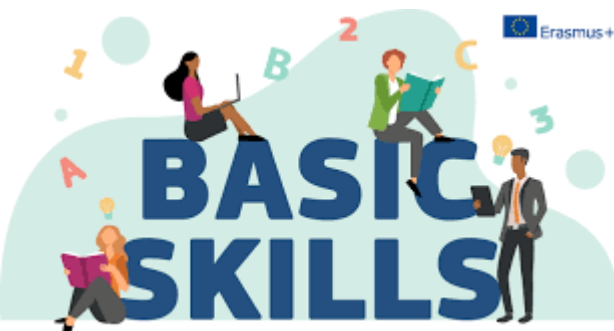
Work Related Learning



Enterprise



Vocational Options



Maths & English





We strive to build all of these skills, to prepare our students for the world of work.

But then what happens?



Percentage of adults with SEND in permanent sustained employment (16+ hrs)



6.2%



3.8%



7.7%



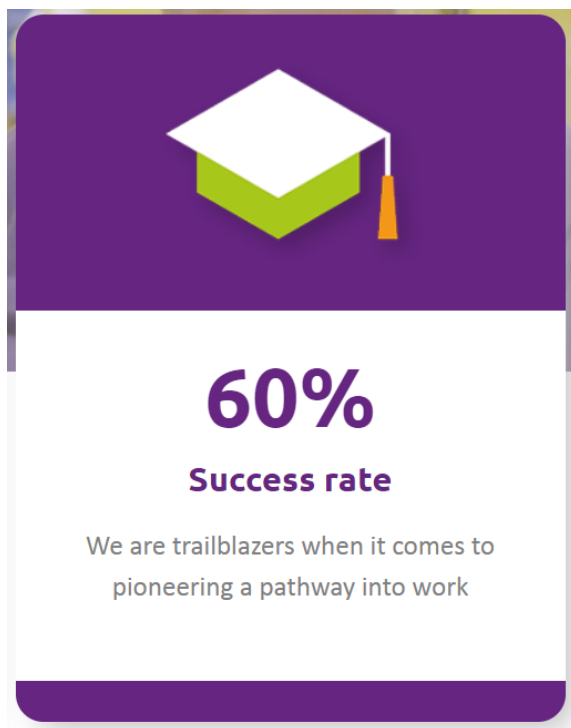


DFN Project | SEARCH

DFN Project SEARCH is a transition to work programme for students with learning disabilities and autism spectrum conditions, aimed at those motivated to achieve competitive employment.



Today Project Search are running over 69 schemes throughout the UK and Europe and have supported more than 1300 young people with SEND into paid work.



60% of supported internships continue into paid employment.

■ Social Value

Evidence shows that being in employment improves health and wellbeing and is central to individual identity, social roles, and social status.

People in work tend to enjoy happier and healthier lives than those who are not in work. It is well documented that paid work has the potential to **improve health** and reduce **health inequalities**.

Transitioning people from education straight into competitive employment also saves money for health and social care by creating opportunities for people with learning disabilities to become **net contributors** rather than recipients of adult social care and health services.



A Five-pronged approach leads to success....

NHS Host Business:

Provides an on-site base and a variety of internships that teach core skills related to that business or organisation.

School or College:

Provides a teacher at the NHS site and student interns from the local area.



Supported Employment Agency:

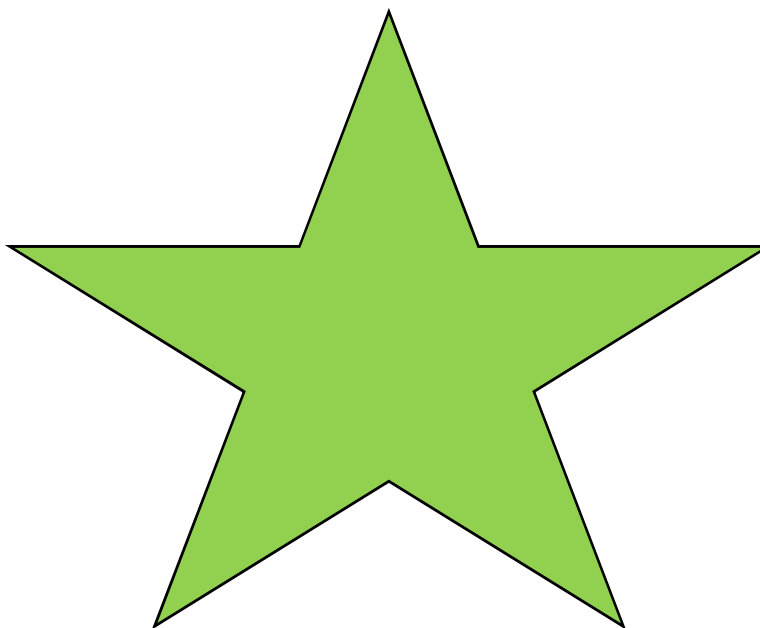
Provides professional job coaching and job development for interns at the NHS site.

Department for Work and Pensions:

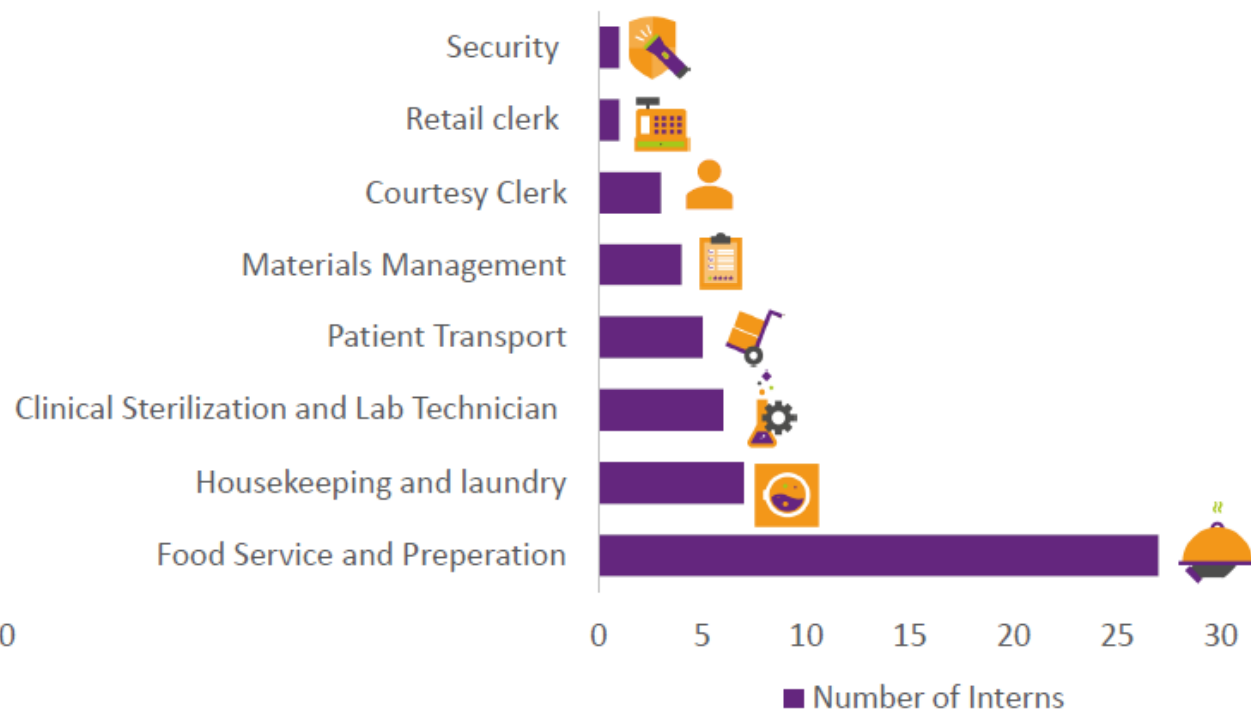
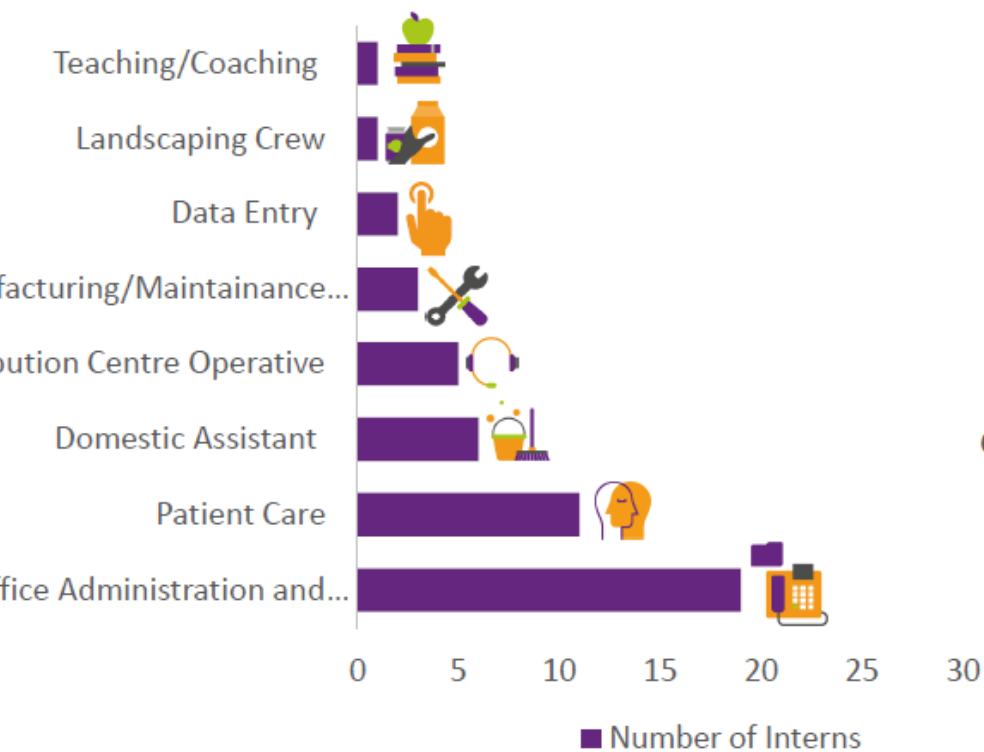
Provides 'Access to Work' funding for job coaching and other follow on support. Provides advice to the young person and their family about better off in work calculations.

Local Authority:

Commissions appropriate partners and ensures access to the programme across a community. They provide individual planning guidance, care management, individual budgets for job coaching and other support.



NHS England Intern Employment Positions 2018/2019





Project Search have recently signed a contract with the NHS to run internships across 42 new sites in the UK.

Leicester was not included in this bid.

At Ellesmere we want to change this. Our students deserve to be part of the 60% who can successfully gain meaningful, paid employment not the 7% who currently do.

Benefits to NHS sites:

Provide an opportunity for one of the most disadvantaged groups in terms of health outcomes to transform their life chances by moving into employment and enjoying all the benefits that come with being an employee.

Demonstrates a commitment to inclusion for one of the most disadvantaged groups of people in the employment market.

A practical way of demonstrating your commitment to the NHS Learning Disability Employment Pledge.

- Gain access to a new, diverse, talent stream with skills that match labour needs.
- Businesses experience increased local, regional, national and international recognition through marketing of this unique programme.
- Organisations dramatically improve performance and retention in some high-turnover or hard-to-fill posts.

What we can offer

- Amazing young people with the drive and enthusiasm to commit to employment.
- A commitment to Project Search.
- Provision of tutors throughout the programme.
- The ability and willingness to link with other special schools/mainstream colleges who may have a small number of young people who would like to be part of the project.
- A commitment not just from us as a school but from the LA as part of the P4A Strategy.

We need support to...

- Access a large employer (eg University Hospitals Trust)
- Bring Project Search to Leicester.
- Promote the superb abilities rather than limitations of our pupils.
- Identify and get on board a supported employment agency to provide job coaches.