

AIM into Work

Interns have had great work opportunities over the three years that the Supported Internship Programme has been running in Gloucestershire. The students gain valuable work experience, and whilst this is the key part of being an intern, it can often help the young person gain their first work opportunity.

Following the Internship students have gained work trials, apprenticeship, traineeships, as well as full and part time employment all through the experience they gained as an Intern.

Over the last three years, the number of students gaining paid employment has grown significantly with the number likely to grow with the next phase of Supported Internships.



Where can I do an assisted internship?

AIM is growing year on year – in the first year we were involved with Gloucestershire College, but Assisted Internship Model is now used in

- Gloucestershire College
- National Star College
- SGS College
- Cirencester College

All of these organisations are working in partnership with Gloucestershire County Council to deliver AIM, along with employers from all over the county.

How do I get involved?

If you think an internship is the right move for you and would like to know more, or if you have any questions about how it works, please contact your local AIM representative :-

AIM@gloucestershire.gov.uk

For further information about AIM and the colleges involved, please visit:
www.glosfamiliesdirectory.org.uk



AIM high in your last year in college
Take your first step into work
Get nine months valuable experience
in the work place

Gain potential paid employment after your internship.
Building confidence, communication skills,
gain life experience.

What's it like doing an internship? We asked former Interns to tell us about it:

"I found learning my role difficult to begin with but my manager took the time to teach me everything and I have slowly learnt everything I need to know, I would recommend other students do the Supported Internship as I get lots of support and everyone that I work with is really friendly."

"I was quite nervous when I started my Supported Internship but I've learnt a lot and my confidence has grown so now I'm able to work on my rooms alone, and have also been offered 16 hours of paid work a week. For anyone interested in doing an internship I would tell them not to worry, and to just give it a go!"

"I have settled in really well and really like it here, I get on with everyone and am part of the team. I really like the role and enjoy coming into work, I have started doing paid work on a Saturday as well as my internship and I'm always keen to come in during my college holidays."

What is AIM?

AIM or the Assisted Internship Model, is a way of helping young people with a disability or boundary to employment take their first steps towards a paid job. Formerly known as a Supported Internship, the Assisted Internship offers an opportunity for you to gain practical working experience and improve your prospects of being offered paid employment. You will be assisted in the workplace by job coaches who will develop the skills required for you to succeed in the workplace and take your first step onto the job ladder.

As an Intern, what can I expect?

AIM takes place in the last year of college and is about continuing your education whilst building a bridge into the world of employment. As an Intern you will spend three days a week with an employer, receiving on the job training and support from your job coach. Over a year you will build your confidence, learn transferable work based skills, before taking your first steps towards a paid role. As well as spending time in the work place, you will continue to attend college one day a week.

At College, you will keep developing your English and Maths Skills, Employability and Workplace training, until you have completed your Internship. Your Internship will last for an academic year, and throughout this time you will be supported by your College Tutor, Employer and an experienced Job Coach.

Is AIM right for me?

To be eligible to apply you must:

- Be aged 16 – 24
- Have a Special Educational Need or a disability or boundary to employment and be keen to work.
- Already have an Education, Health and Care plan (EHCP), or be in the process of being assessed for an EHCP

Most importantly though we are looking for people who have a desire to gain experience in a real working environment, are keen to learn, become part of team and get a paid job at the end of your internship.

The AIM for you

The overall aims of a supported internship are for you to achieve:

- 9 months valuable experience in the workplace
- Improved personal confidence, communication skills and life experience
- The prospect of paid employment after your internship

