



WORK PLACEMENTS

Parents' Guide



SUPPORTING YOUR CHILD THROUGH WORK PLACEMENT

Welcome to a pivotal stage in your child's educational journey! Work placements offer invaluable opportunities for students to gain practical experience, enhance their skills, and explore potential career paths. As a parent, your support and guidance play a crucial role in maximising the benefits of this experience for your child. This booklet aims to provide you with insights on how to support and encourage your child throughout their work placement journey.

BENEFITS FOR STUDENTS

- **Practical Experience:** Work placements provide hands-on experience in real-world settings, allowing students to apply theoretical knowledge to practical situations.
- **Skill Development:** Students develop essential skills such as communication, teamwork, problem-solving, and time management, which are highly valued by employers.
- **Career Exploration:** Work placements offer an opportunity for students to explore various career paths, helping them make informed decisions about their future.
- **Networking Opportunities:** Students can build professional networks and establish connections within their chosen industry, which may open doors to future employment opportunities.
- **Enhanced Confidence:** Successfully completing a work placement boosts students' confidence in their abilities and prepares them for future challenges in the workplace.
- **UCAS Application:** By detailing the skills they have picked up, students can really enhance their university applications and will give the university something to consider. A student with work experience is in a much stronger position than a student who has no experience
- **CV:** As above, having tangible experience can really boost a CV and inform a potential employer of the skills picked up during a work placement.

BENEFITS FOR PARENTS

- **Peace of Mind:** Knowing that your child is gaining valuable experience and learning important skills can provide peace of mind and provide you with confidence in their future prospects.
- **Increased Support Network:** Engaging with your child during their work placement allows you to connect with their workplace supervisors

and mentors, expanding your support network. You may discover the skills and attitudes they show in the workplace that are not shown at home.

- **Strengthened Relationship:** Supporting your child through their work placement fosters a stronger bond between you and your child as you share their successes and challenges. By asking them each day about what they did and learnt, you will understand their progress and potentially be able to help them with any queries they have. It's also a great opportunity for you to encourage them and help boost their confidence.

ENCOURAGING YOUR CHILD

- **Emphasise the Importance:** Highlight the significance of the work placement experience in shaping your child's future career opportunities and personal growth.

- **Set Expectations:** Clearly communicate your expectations regarding punctuality, professionalism, and attitude during the work placement period. A positive attitude cannot be emphasised enough.

- **Offer Encouragement:** Provide words of encouragement and express confidence in your child's abilities to excel in their placement role.

- **Establish a routine:** Help your child establish a routine that includes adequate rest, preparation, and time management to ensure they arrive punctually and maintain a positive attitude.

- **Lead by example:** Serve as a role model by demonstrating punctuality, professionalism, and a positive attitude in your own endeavours.

CONCLUSION

As a parent, your support and encouragement are invaluable assets in helping your child make the most of their work placement experience. By emphasising the benefits, setting expectations, and offering guidance, you can empower your child to thrive in their placement role and lay the foundation for a successful future career. Together, let's embark on this journey of growth and discovery with enthusiasm and optimism!

