

Who is work experience offered to?

Real-work opportunities will be offered to students from a variety of study programmes at QAC, these will be planned around their interests and course.

Therefore all industries are likely to be required, we are particularly keen to have placements in retail, administration, IT, hospitality, childcare, education, care homes, media, sport and leisure, automotive, warehousing, animal care and trades.



Make a Difference

Get in touch

To find out more, or to discuss ways you may be able to offer our students opportunities with your organisation, please contact our Employment Pathways Team:

John McDougall, Lead Work Placement Coordinator
Tel: 0121 809 2208 E-mail: johnmcdougall@qac.ac.uk
www.qac.ac.uk



What support will you receive?

Placements should be, wherever possible, useful to you and your business and seen by the student as 'real work'. QAC will complete all relevant paperwork including risk assessments and will have a meeting with you to discuss the student in detail before any placement commences.

The process should not cost you anything - we will ensure reasonable adjustment costs are covered. College staff accompany and support the student where required and the process is regularly reviewed to ensure it is meeting your needs.

Make a Difference



The best place for young people to learn what is expected of them in the workplace is by spending time in that environment.



- offer a real-work opportunity

Real-work opportunities are a great way to support students to develop their employability skills and to help them to learn what your business requires from its future workforce.



About Queen Alexandra College

QAC is a specialist, national residential College and charity based in Harborne, Birmingham that offers an innovative, holistic approach to learning and support for young people aged 16-25 with a range of abilities and needs.

The College offers a range of courses and opportunities designed to maximise life chances, develop independence and work skills.

English, Maths and employment skills are embedded across all areas of study. It is important that student qualifications are supplemented with real-work opportunities in organisations like yours to be engaged, inspired and informed about what working life is like.

It can help students develop confidence and other skills, build and strengthen their CVs and understand better what they want to do when they leave College.



There are a range of options and experiences we aim to secure for our students:

● Work Experience

Unpaid Work Experience provides students the opportunity to have a taster in the world of work. Work experience could last one day, one week or one day a week for six weeks. It is very much dependent on the individual and the organisation.

● Work Placement

An unpaid work placement lasts longer than work experience and will help the student understand the ins and outs of working in a particular industry. Work placements normally last over 6 weeks and are regular placements (usually one full working day a week).

● Group Work Placement

We have groups of students who access unpaid placements with College staff to help gain and develop teamwork and work skills. They carry out tasks such as gardening, cleaning, packing etc. and the duration is usually half a day, once a week for 6 months.

● Supported Internship

These are unpaid work placements for students in their last year at College who are looking at entering employment in a specific industry on completion of their internship. These placements can last a minimum of 6 months and are normally 2 days a week, allowing students to gain extended experience of working in their chosen industry.

Benefits to your organisation?



These opportunities are generally considered to be beneficial for students on several levels - they gain career insight, find out what they like or don't like about a particular job and have an introduction to the workplace and everything that entails. But what is often overlooked is how their presence in the workplace can benefit employers too, such as:

- Championing and promoting workforce diversity and inclusion
- Enhance your organisation's reputation and public profile
- Accessing a pool of hidden talent - young people who offer enthusiasm, creativity and a fresh perspective to your business
- Contributing to the training and development of local young people
- Boosting staff morale and a more engaged workforce
- Developing the supervisory, management and mentoring skills of your current workforce
- Grow a deeper understanding of disabilities in the workplace
- Contributing towards your CSR commitments around community engagement



Make a Difference