**Project SEARCH (GSK & London Borough of Hounslow)**

Project SEARCH is a supported internship model that runs in many countries. West Thames College currently runs a Project SEARCH internship across two sites: GSK in Brentford, and The London Borough of Hounslow, at Hounslow House.

We have a maximum of 24 places each year, 12 on each site.

The programme is aimed at **17-24 year olds with a learning disability and an EHCP**, ensuring that they get the same opportunities as everyone else. We have a success rate for getting our trainees into work or apprenticeships of 70-80%.



Interns are supported by a tutor, job coaches, and industry mentors through three different training placements over the course of a standard college year. They will gain an employability qualification and receive training in a work sector of their choosing, in order to become employable.

We hold assessment days at which we assess applicants for suitability to the project, looking at IT and literacy levels, team working skills, attitude to work, and ability to follow instructions. We take trainees that are assessed as being likely to benefit from a year of learning work place skills and attitudes.

At the end of the programme graduates are supported by job coaches through job searches, applications, interviews, and through the training and induction phases of employment.

**Placements currently\* offered:**

Security, grounds, Catering/Hospitality, Housekeeping, Portering, Mailroom, Care work, Office work, Reception, Bike workshop, Business Support, Customer Service, Library and Audio Visual.

*\*Please note that many of these placements are dependent on the COVID restrictions being lifted, and we are currently mainly offering office placements.*

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