

Bradford Project SEARCH Update

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What is it?

Project SEARCH is a partnership between Bradford Teaching Hospitals, Southfield School, HFT, Bradford Council and the University of Bradford. The goal is to provide three on-site work placements for young people with learning difficulties leading to gaining skills necessary for employment.

Meet the Graduates!

The end of the year is always an emotional time at Project SEARCH as we say goodbye to our interns and await with great anticipation, the outcomes of so many job applications, interviews and work trials. It is also a time for celebration and on Thursday 6th July, we held our Graduation Ceremony for the 2016-17 interns in the Sovereign Lecture Theatre at Bradford Royal Infirmary.



In total, eight interns graduated at a ceremony which built on the successes of the past with even more people in attendance than ever before, including many former interns who returned to join the celebrations.

Professor Clive Kay, Chief Executive of Bradford Teaching Hospitals Foundations Trust, hosted the graduation.

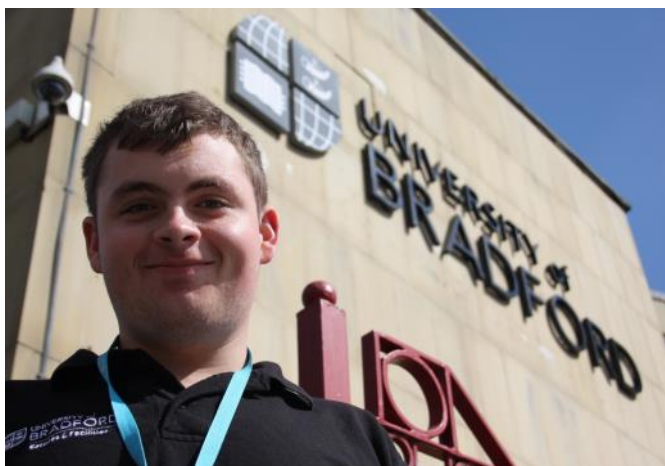
Lorraine Cameron and the interns gave an overview of the year and it was brilliant to hear the interns speaking so confidently about their experiences. David Knights, father of intern Aidan, gave a parent's perspective about Aidan's journey this year and how Project SEARCH has helped him develop the skills and confidence to help him into employment. Finally, we were delighted to welcome Councillor Richard Dunbar, Pat Campbell, Director of HR at BTHFT and Dominic Wall, Headteacher of Southfield School to present the certificates and trophies.

Before the event, we announced on our website that Umar had become the first intern this year to find [employment](#) at the University of Bradford in an administrative role in the HR department. At the event we also announced that Mark has secured an apprenticeship at BTHFT. Amazing news! We would like to thank everyone who contributed to the event and the many people who came along to support our interns. The event received press coverage in the Keighley News which you can read [here](#).

Recruitment for 2017-18

We are pleased to announce that 12 interns have been recruited for Project SEARCH Bradford to start on Wednesday 6th September. We are looking forward to welcoming them to the hospital for their induction in September. We will share more of their stories throughout next year!

Thomas completes final rotation at University



Thomas completed his final rotation at the University of Bradford. His first placements were at the BRI in Estates, painting and decorating, and in Facilities in Linen Services. Thomas was reliable, hardworking, and has great skills and experience in practical and manual work, so he is focussing his job searching in these areas. Thomas said: *"I was a porter at the University of Bradford, I enjoyed it. I got on well with all of the team. I really likes the job and would like to find a paid job doing something similar."*

Neil getting ready for paid

Neil is stepping up his search for paid work. Not only has he built on his work experience via Project SEARCH, he is also using his spare time to help him prepare for a job. The last weekend in May, Neil went on a course learning the basics of drystone-walling. This course not only taught him a skill that may benefit him in employment, but also was of great enjoyment to Neil. Neil is keen to find work somewhere where he can show his passion for the outdoors.

Neil said: *"My third rotation was as a gardener at the University of Bradford. My first rotation on Grounds Maintenance involved weeding, litter-picking, leaf-raking and emptying out rose beds and so on. I am looking for a possible job opportunity as a gardening apprentice. If I had a dream job in the future, I would be happy to get a job on the Lancaster Canal Society."*



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www.projectsearchbradford.org.uk

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