

Start planning your future now – consider a Supported Internship for 2026

Maisy's SEND Employment Forum Newsletter – September 2025 Edition

The Oxfordshire Supported Internship is a partnership between:

- Activate Learning
- Abingdon and Witney College
- Oxfordshire Employment

Who Can Participate? Young people aged 16-25 with an [Education, Health and Care \(EHC\) Plan](#). Supported internships offer real work experience and skill-building, usually lasting 6-12 months, with most time spent in the workplace.

What Will You Learn?

Participants will learn job-specific skills in the workplace and demonstrate their value to employers. Traditional learning, such as English and Maths, may be included where appropriate. Check out our [Supported Internship \(SI\) info pages](#)

Pay and Qualifications:

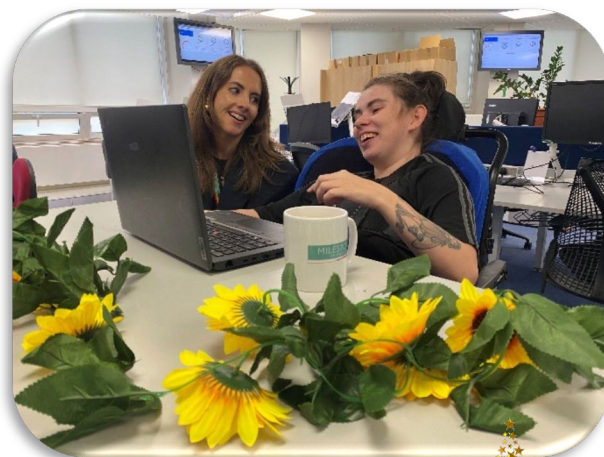
You may be offered pay or achieve a work qualification, but every internship is personalised, and not all offer paid opportunities.



Employee Spotlight:

Maisy, now SEND Media Support Officer for Supported Internships at Oxfordshire County Council, began as an intern before taking a part-time paid role in January 2025. She has helped to raise SI visibility and accessibility in Oxfordshire. Congratulations to Maisy for her great work. **“I strive to advocate for the Cerebral Palsy community, to be a voice for the voiceless. The people I work for and with share these goals, making every working day enjoyable”!**

Fun Fact: “When I was ten, I met Denise Van-Houten in an airport hangar”!



For more information: [please contact the Oxfordshire Employment Team.](#)

Within Oxfordshire 60% of interns go into paid employment

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"Avana's First Day at the Garden Centre"

This comic strip shows Avana, a young person with epilepsy, having a positive first day at work. It highlights inclusion, support, and confidence-building in the workplace, and demonstrates how thoughtful guidance helps people with additional needs succeed.

It's Avana's first day at the garden centre. She's 17 and has epilepsy.



Louise leaves Avana who starts to worry. Nick, another colleague spots her and comes over.

Avana smiles, she is pleased someone has noticed her struggling.



Ten minutes later, the pair finish the first row of shelves, it's clear her confidence has grown.



Twenty minutes pass, and Louise notices the finished display



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