**Supported Internships**

The aim of the Supported Internship programme is to develop interns’ skills in a real working environment, in order to help them gain sustainable paid employment.

The students spend three days per week in their work placement and one day per week at Wirral Met College, for one academic year. At the end of the programme, students can then achieve a recognised ‘Skills for Employment’ qualification. Work placements have included reception duties at the main entrance at Arrowe Park hospital, working in the physiotherapy deparment at Clatterbridge Hospital, catering at the Caernavon Castle Pub in Prenton, and catering with Sodexo at the Unilever site, Bebington.

The Supported internship programme has been a great success, with 90% of students securing permanent positions with their placement employer and other employers continuing with the scheme. Joel Robinson is just one example of students securing employment after taking part in the Supported Internship programme. Joel works in the kitchen at the Caernarvon Castle pub in Prenton and aims to be a chef in the future.

**Wirral Met College proud to support Prep4life students with employment opportunities**

Thousands of students choose to come to Wirral Met College to study and the college is proud of the support it gives to its students, including those on Prep 4 Life courses. These courses offer young people (aged 16-24) with learning difficulties and/or disabilities, the opportunity to develop independence and work skills that will help them in adult life.

The Prep 4 Life curriculum area offers a variety of programmes at different levels, for students with severe to moderate learning difficulties. Supported Internships is an option for students studying at entry level 3 and the other courses include Preparation to Work, Vocational Options, Future Options and Independent Options.

On these courses, students can learn independence skills that will help them at home and work; develop their communication and number skills and engage in leisure and community activities, all whilst receiving support from the team at Wirral Met.

If you are an employer and interested in working with us on the Internship Programme, please contact [**www.internship@wmc.ac.uk**](http://www.internship@wmc.ac.uk)

For more information about Prep 4 Life courses, please visit [**www.wmc.ac.uk**](http://www.wmc.ac.uk) or call 0151 551 7777.