

# PETROC



## Got an EHCP and want a job?

Project SEARCH is the supported internship with award-winning outcomes that develops skills and independence in the workplace.



**Royal Devon  
University Healthcare**  
NHS Foundation Trust

Project SEARCH is a supported internship program for people with a learning disability who want to **gain paid employment**. It was started in Cincinnati Ohio by a nurse and a teacher and has now spread worldwide.

It is a one year program which is run as a partnership between the NHS and Petroc and is based in the hospital with a dedicated training room and two full-time, trained staff.

Over the eight years that the program has run, 9 out of 10 people have gone into long term employment.



## STRUCTURE

Each intern completes three ten-week placements during the academic year. The placements are across a wide range of departments within the hospital and are carefully chosen by Project SEARCH staff to match the skills of the intern with the department, supportively develop the skills of the intern and **maximise their opportunities for employment**.

The intern works Monday – Friday and completes 32.5 hours per week. This daily repetition is useful for learning new tasks.

The working day starts in the training room at 8:30am. Here they focus on their targets, and how they will be realised. The intern will then work in their placement from 9:00am – 2:00pm. At 2:00pm they return to the training room until 3:30pm where they review their day in the workplace and work toward a City and Guilds certificate in employability.

## EMPLOYMENT AND CONFIDENCE!

Through the **confidence** gained as a result of being a valued member of the team, interns improve on a wide variety of skills.

As a result, they typically find themselves able to get involved in things they may have previously found difficult to do, such as talking to relatives, speaking on the phone, or undertaking tasks around the house.

Project SEARCH Barnstaple is a fantastic project which has had outstanding results including an award for the best European site. **9 out of 10** interns gain **employment** of more than 16 hours a week.

Due to the success of Project Search Barnstaple, from September 2022, we're delighted to be adding Project Search Exeter to our offering.



If you have any questions or would like further information, please contact **Dave Bridges** on **01271 322498** or at **david.bridges@petroc.ac.uk**

Apply online at **petroc.ac.uk**