

Work Experience

If a student has not already had a part-time job, work experience may be the first time they visit a workplace and learn about employer expectations and the world of work.

Work Experience placements assist students in their transition from school to work and aim to:

- Provide students with an opportunity to relate school studies with a workplace
- Give students an insight into the diversity of employees in the workplace
- Prepare students for the demands and expectations of the working world
- Help students make informed career decisions by assessing their aptitudes and interests, and exploring potential careers
- Improve students' maturity, confidence and self-reliance
- Provide students with appropriate knowledge, skills and attitudes concerning both paid and unpaid work

A work experience employer will expect students to:

- Be punctual – (demonstrating self-management and planning)
- Be well-presented – (demonstrating self-management)
- Listen and pay attention (demonstrating communication skills)
- Participate in particular activities, possibly as part of a team (demonstrating initiative, communication and teamwork)
- Enjoy the activity and learn.

Students should learn from work experience:

- What activities they enjoy?
- What activities they are good at? What they find easy?
- What activities they didn't enjoy? Why?

Student might also learn from work experience:

- Strengths that they have? What are they?
- Employer expectations?
- If they would like to work in the industry or job they experienced or for that employer? Why?
- What training might be needed?
- What other job or industry they would like to investigate?