

## **Have you ever considered hosting a Jobseeker for Work Experience?**

Your business has probably been approached by schools and colleges looking for opportunities to give their students real-life experience of the world of work, but have you ever considered hosting unemployed jobseekers of working age?

Jobcentres across Thames Valley are supporting thousands of jobseekers who want to learn more about working in your sector.

Candidates could be of any age, and may be looking to change careers or return to work after a life event.

For some young people, a lack of understanding or experience of the workplace is a significant barrier to finding employment.

For older people, who may have been away from work for a while, the chance to undertake real work and adjust to the routines and habits of working life can significantly improve their confidence and employment prospects.

**Hosting a work experience placement can really benefit your business** e.g. by:

- Developing the supervisory and management skills of your current workforce
- Enhancing your public profile by supporting your local community
- Promoting workforce diversity

Work Experience is not linked to a vacancy or your recruitment. It's all about supporting people back to work through building their confidence and skills.

If, because of the placement, you want to consider employing the person on Work Experience, you can do this.

Work Experience through Jobcentre Plus enables unemployed people to volunteer for placements lasting between 2 and 8 weeks: we'll agree the duration with you.

The Jobcentre Plus team will help you select and engage with participants. Participants continue to receive their benefits and the Jobcentre will cover the costs of travel and childcare if necessary. There is no direct cost to the host employer.

At the end of the placement we will ask you to provide a reference for the jobseeker.

To find out more about hosting a jobseeker, please contact your local Jobcentre Employer support team:

Berkshire: [berks.employerteam@dwp.gov.uk](mailto:berks.employerteam@dwp.gov.uk)

Buckinghamshire: [bucks.employeradviserteam@dwp.gov.uk](mailto:bucks.employeradviserteam@dwp.gov.uk)

Milton Keynes: [miltonkeynes.employeradvisorteam@dwp.gov.uk](mailto:miltonkeynes.employeradvisorteam@dwp.gov.uk)

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