



23rd June 2023

Dear Parent Carers,

Weekly Update: 23/06/23

I hope this update finds you well. Recently, I shared that we would give an update on our supported internship programme, Project SEARCH. Please find this on the next two pages – it makes for great reading!

Upcoming Industrial Action

Industrial Action is due to take place on Wednesday 5th and Friday 7th July. As with previous recent strike days, St Martins will remain open to our community of vulnerable young people, however, the school day will look different as the number of teaching staff working may be limited. In the recent strike days, student groups have been merged, and we collapsed the usual timetable and curriculum offer.

The latest strikes are likely to play out in the same way. Managing and maintaining safeguarding and the health and safety of students and staff will be our main priority.

We understand that some of our young people will find the changes to their school routine challenging and so you may prefer to keep your young person at home for the day(s) – absences will be authorised.

We will send a Form via text early next week for families to let us know their plans. If you were able to complete this promptly, as for previous days, this would be greatly appreciated. Thank you.

INSET Day

Please remember that St Martins School and Horizons 6th Form is closed to students on Monday 26th June. School will be open as usual on Tuesday.

With best wishes,

Sabrina Hobbs Principal



A GREAT RESULT FOR JAMES

This week former St Martins student. James. has been successful in securing employment in a portering role after completing a work trial over the last few weeks. He is excited to be part of the ISS portering team working as a Theatre porter. This was a role he did as his second placement on the programme and instantly knew it was a career he wanted to pursue.

SUMMER NEWSLETTER 2023





CELEBRATION EVENT

At the Royal Derby Hospital, we recently organised a graduation event for interns who participated in our programme over the past two years. The ceremony brought together 70 guests, including programme partners, family members, friends, mentors, and colleagues. It was a joyous occasion to commemorate the accomplishments and triumphs of our interns.

PARTNER INVOLVEMENT

We heard from all partners of the programme who each shared how important the Internship is in creating a diverse and inclusive workforce. We are proud how they are to be able to offer the interns meaningful, real life experiences to transition from education into work.

We are grateful to all our partners for their continued support and opportunities they offer to empower our interns and also to grow the programme.









St Martins Principal, Sabrina Hobbs welcomed everyone to the event.



JOIN US...

Join us at the University of Derby for the Supported Internship Symposium Monday 3rd July at 5pm for an unmissable opportunity to explore life-changing possibilities and employment prospects after students finish school. Hosted by Wykeham, a St Martins Governor and advocate for young people with disabilities transitioning into work, this promises inspiration and empowerment. Former St Martins students, our interns, have created captivating presentations about their experiences. Secure your spot by scanning the QR code and be part of this transformative experience. We extend a warm invitation to students from year 7-14, parent carers, and families. It's never too early to start planning for life after school, and we are excited to raise incredible awareness about the

opportunities offered by supported internships and the limitless potential for employment that awaits everyone. Mark your calendars and be a part of this inspiring event.





INTERN UPDATE



As we are coming close to the end of the programme for the current cohort they are all working hard to secure employment. Jane, the job Coach has been working very hard with them all individually to support them with the process of looking and applying for jobs. On the programme we work with DEBP, who will offer careers, advice and guidance, not only through the year but also create a bespoke plan for each intern based on their level of education, hopes and aspirations.

Abbie is currently on placement as a Modern Housekeeper and is enjoying the variety and pace of the role, she is now also applying for part time reception duties as she likes to communicate with patients and staff.

Arjan has really enjoyed working in Receipts and Distribution and working with Project SEARCH graduate and former St Martins student, Jack for his third placement. Arjan has learned how to decant – ensuring all deliveries are in the right cages to get to the correct departments and then going round the Hospital to drop them off. Arjan is keeping an open mind about the type of job he would like to apply for and is currently actively job searching.

Kris is really enjoying the variety of tasks he is undertaking as a Radiographer Assistant for his final placement setting. Kris has worked with the team in King's Treatment Centre and is currently with ultrasound in the main x-ray department. Kris wants to work 3 days a week and is applying for a job as a part time receptionist on the Gastroenterology ward.

Sabrina has successfully completed placements in administration with the Wellbeing team and Portering in Endoscopy. After expressing an interest in a barista job, a placement was set up with Retail Catering with a primary focus on barista work in the Starbucks coffee shop. Sabrina's skills and confidence are growing and she is demonstrating some excellent customer service skills, as well as learning to use the equipment and take payments on the till. Sabrina has applied for a 30-hour a week role with Costa Coffee at the Hospital. There is also the option of an Apprenticeship with Costa Coffee at Burton Hospital.





Term Dates for Academic Year 2022/2023

Summer Term

School Breaks up for Half Term - Friday 26th May

School Starts Back - Monday 5th June

INSET Day – Monday 26th June

School Breaks up for Summer – Friday 21st July

Term Dates for Academic Year 2023/2024

Autumn Term

INSET Day – Monday 4th and Tuesday 5th September

School Starts for the new Academic Year – Wednesday 6th September

School Breaks up for Half Term – Friday 27th October

School Starts Back – Monday 6th November

School Breaks up for Christmas – Friday 22nd December

Spring Term

School Starts Back – Monday 8th January 2024

School Breaks up for Half Term – Thursday 15th February

INSET Day – Friday 16th February

School Starts Back – Monday 26th February

School Breaks up for Easter – Thursday 28th March

Summer Term

INSET Day – Monday 15th April

School Starts Back – Tuesday 16th April

Bank Holiday – Monday 6th May

School Breaks up for Half Term - Friday 24th May

School Starts Back – Monday 3rd June

INSET Day – Monday 1st July

School Breaks up for Summer – Tuesday 23rd July