

Testimonials from former Placement Students

Hannah Peacop (*University of Glos Aug 2014-Aug 2015*)

I worked at Wychavon District Council as part of the Community Development Team from August 2014 till August 2015. I loved working with the team as everyone was so welcoming and really helped me settle in to a job that I had not had much experience with before. Being involved with the CDT, I learnt so much and was able to get involved with lots of different events that the council are involved with from sports and arts to grants and awards. It really opened my eyes to the real world of events and working life in general. It is a fantastic place to work and would not hesitate in applying if I got the opportunity again! I am now currently studying to do my final year at The University of Gloucestershire and am using some of my knowledge gained from my year on placement as part of my dissertation. I am looking forward to working in the events industry when I graduate

Fern Canning (*Bournemouth University Aug 2013-Aug 2014*)

I worked with the Community Development Team during my student placement. I can say with certainty that my time at Wychavon helped me to develop both professionally and personally. The Community Development team is a hard-working, close knit and supportive team. The range of events and responsibility given allows each student to develop important skills, knowledge, experience and confidence. Following my placement at Wychavon, I returned to Bournemouth University and graduated with a 2.1 classification. I was inspired by my time at Wychavon District Council and wrote my dissertation on events and community development, helped by my previous colleagues at the council, by providing important statistics and data for this piece.

I now work for a large Trade Association as the Events and Training Officer, with an array of responsibilities including business development events, training courses, social media and much more. The events I work on range from international exhibitions to organising dinners. I do not think without my time at Wychavon I would have had the confidence or ability to apply for my current job. I loved my time at Wychavon and would highly recommend it to students looking for placements, in particular if you are studying Event Management or Sport Development.

Sarah Ardin (*University of Bournemouth Aug 2012- Aug 2013*)

I honestly would not be where I am today without the fantastic experience and grounding I gained from my year at Wychavon. I learned about working in the office environment, project management, effective administration, team work, events management and gained insight into the world of local government. Not to mention I had a brilliant time working with such a supportive and fun bunch of people.

I am now working as a National Management Trainee at Coventry City Council on the National Graduate Development Programme run by the LGA (<http://www.ngdp.org.uk/>). I certainly would

not have had the skills or confidence to apply if it wasn't for my placement year, so all I can say is a massive thank you to Wychavon District Council for supporting a placement student scheme.

Laura Barnard (*University of Glos Aug 2011- Aug 2012*)

Working within a dedicated team, my 2011-2012 placement with Wychavon District Council was very rewarding. As part of the Community Development Team, everyday was varied as my responsibilities included event organisation, marketing and office administration. I gained a greater understanding of the working environment and my experience certainly helped me to secure a job in marketing. I now have a job I love and honestly believe that my learning's from my placement at Wychavon helped me achieve this. I have some fond memories of my placement years thanks to all of the lovely team.

Kerry Brooks (*University of Glos Aug 2010 – Aug 2011*)

My placement with Wychavon is one of the best jobs I've had. By working in the community development team I was able to get involved in different areas including sports, art, culture and health and this helped me decided what I would like to do in the future. It opened up lots of doors for me; I met the netball development officer for the district and went on to coach a back to netball team and gain qualifications. I also had the opportunity to get involved with organising events with another department. The team at Wychavon really encouraged me to try everything and if I did want to do something, they found a way to get me involved. I enjoyed every day because the team are so friendly and you all pull together to get things done. From this placement I learnt that this was the type of job I wanted when I graduated. I liked it so much that I continued to volunteer with them during my final year. I now work for Playnetball in London as a Business Development Manager and I wouldn't be where I am today without the Wychavon Community Development Team!

