



CASE STUDY

Rachel Eagle UK Export Finance Manager Cadbury, Sheffield on their intern Christopher from Longley Park Sixth Form

The Sheffield site is proud to have supported Career Academies UK for three years. In particular we provide a number of support mechanisms for Longley Park Sixth Form College. The College is in a deprived area of Sheffield and always looks to strengthen links with local and national businesses to help raise student aspirations, so it is great that we can help out as a major local employer, with around 500 employees.

Christopher has been our first Career Academy intern. We designated a lady called Fiona Bruce as a supervisor for Christopher as we thought that it would be best for him to have one person to report to. Under Fiona's guidance he has spent time working in several areas of the company including export and factory finance and has been looking at forecasting. He has also been involved in finance looking at costs involved in making products and expenditure analysis.

Christopher's internship has given us the opportunity to think about how we go about our own training and coaching. It is rare that you get to work with someone who has never been in business environment or even used email in the workplace before, so this has been a big challenge for staff. Certainly from my own perspective, working with Christopher has been different from anything I've ever done, as I usually recruit people who have experience or qualifications in finance.

We've all been pleasantly surprised by Christopher's abilities as he is naturally very capable and learns quickly. Having him on board has been extremely rewarding as he's provided a fresh pair of eyes and given us a new perspective on how we run things. It has also been incredibly rewarding to see him grown in confidence. Christopher is very shy and quiet but his confidence has grown so much and he has become a lot more outgoing. I think now he realises 'wow I can really do this and have lots to give!'