

## **Fosse Way School**

Fosse Way School is a Foundation Special School with Technology specialism for children age 3 – 19 and it has 150 pupils. A total of 10 students aged 17 – 18 were involved in employer engagement activity.

Fosse Way School was founded in 1960. It has developed into a generic special school accepting referrals from seven Local Authorities. It has some residential provision as well as satellite provision for students with Asperger's Syndrome in a near-by mainstream secondary school. Over the last five years the number of students attending has grown by about 25% a significant proportion of this growth has been associated with post 16 and new off-site provision at the secondary school and Project SEARCH.

The objective of partnership with the employer was to develop work skills during the final year of schooling, culminating in permanent full-time employment.

Project SEARCH was the first UK pilot, it is a collaboration by Royal United Hospital Bath, Fosse Way School and Bath and North East Somerset Council. A classroom sited within the hospital acts as a full-time base from which students are supported by teacher and job coaches through three 10 week internships in different departments of the hospital. Development of workplace skills during this final year of schooling is intended to culminate in a job offer.

The employer the Royal United Hospital in Bath sought the creation of a diverse workforce.

The project has only been running for three months but students are already adopting mature approaches to the workplace and demonstrating employability and independence skills required for successful employment outcomes. Two students have already been offered jobs within departments of the hospital.

To find out more visit: [www.fossewayschool.org.uk](http://www.fossewayschool.org.uk)