

Internships **WORK**



Advice Pack for Local Authorities

Year 4 Extension, 2025-26

Internships
WORK

**Improving supported internship
provision in England.**

Funded by

Department
for Education

Delivered by
 **NDTi**
National Development Team for Inclusion

 **DFN
Project SEARCH**

 **base**
british association for
supported employment

About Advice Pack for Local Authorities

The Department for Education is funding a fourth year of the [Internships Work](#) programme to improve Supported Internship provision in England.

The programme is delivered by the [National Development Team for Inclusion](#) (NDTi), in partnership with the [British Association of Supported Employment](#) (BASE) and [DFN Project SEARCH](#).

The recent House of Lords report on Think Work First (October 2024) and the government response (May 2025) shows an ongoing commitment to the development of supported internships for young people with SEND both with and without Education, Health and Care plans.

Each authority will receive a grant of **£21,307.18** to **continue activities** and **build in sustainability** into their local offer and employment forums.

This will involve:

- [Regional Lead](#) support for Local Authorities, focusing on SEND Employment Forums and follow on support.
- Employer engagement and facilitation by the **Employer Ambassador Network**.
- **60 peer reviews** using the Supported Internships Quality Assurance Framework ([SIQAF](#)).
- **Employment forums**, with a focus on follow on support and how Employer Ambassadors can be used to build relationships with businesses.
- **400 job coach training places**, prioritising local authorities that had limited training uptake and providers identified as needing support through SIQAF.
- **Quarterly reports** remain the same.
- Quarterly webinars and an end of year conference.

Please note we have updated the action plan to make it applicable to the year 4 priorities.

The **pilot areas** offering supported internships for young people with complex needs who don't have an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP) have also been extended for the year 2025-26.

Here are key resources for Local Authorities in 2025-26:

1. About Advice Pack for Local Authorities (current document)
2. Action Plan
3. Send Employment Forum: Suggested Terms of Reference (with Easy Read version)
4. Employment Pathways Toolkit: Self-Assessment Tool for Local Authorities
5. Job Profile Information: SEND Employment Officer
6. Easy Read: What are Supported Internships
7. Example Education, Health & Care Plan
8. Useful Links
9. Staying in Touch