



Café Beam

Work Placement Programme

Name of young person: _____

Our young person's placement programme offers a fully supported work placement in Café Beam for young people aged between 16-25 years old with disabilities and learning difficulties. Our placements enable young people to gain real life work skills, confidence and knowledge to assist them with their transition into adulthood, supporting them into employment, a rewarding voluntary position or simply enhancing their personal life skills to reach their full potential.

Café Beam was established in May 2014 by Smile For Life Children's Charity as one of their core objectives to enhance and enrich the lives of disabled and disadvantaged youngsters in the North East. Since opening, the café has supported over 250 youngsters who have enjoyed a successful work placement with many of them moving into paid employment or further voluntary positions. Café Beam placements are supported by a friendly, highly motivated team made up of both qualified staff and trained volunteers. All team members are DBS checked in line with our Safeguarding Policy.

The placement programme at Café Beam offers a varied and meaningful role, training young people in many tasks recognised throughout the hospitality industry which can include:

- Welcoming customers and informing them about our work and their role within Café Beam.
- Taking food and beverage orders using our iPad ordering system. (Using photographs of items or written descriptions, fonts can be enlarged or made more distinctive).
- Preparing hot and cold drinks – all young people become qualified Baristas by the end of their placement.
- Preparation of food items.
- Serving and clearing away.
- Operating the till, taking payments and giving out change.
- Washing up and maintaining food hygiene standards.
- Following and executing opening and/or closing procedures.
- Qualifications in Food Hygiene
- First Aid training

In addition our placements will provide valuable, softer life skills:

- Independent travel skills
- Increased Confidence
- Development of social skills and widened social circle
- Reduced isolation

All young people will undergo regular reviews and planning for progression. All outcomes/ issues will be fully discussed with tutors, parents and carers.

Our placements run in 12 week blocks throughout the year and each young person has a specific learning and training plan which is monitored and measured at the end of their placement. Following a successful 2 week trial period, a 12 week placement will be offered which is payable in advance (full course or monthly) at the following rate per session:

Tuesday - Friday

Half day session - 8am-12.30pm or 12.30pm-5pm (or Host role 10am – 2.30pm)
£30

Saturday

8am-2.30pm
£40

A minimum of one 15 minute break is built into every half day session as well as a 30 minute lunch break on a full day session (and Saturday shift).

All placements are subject to availability.

Please contact Lauren Patterson or Paula Gascoigne on 0191 2844166 or email lauren@smileforlife.org.uk or paula@smileforlife.org.uk for any further information or to arrange a visit.