

# Work Experience

# Why is work experience important?

- Gain new skills and experience
- Understand how organisations work
- Get a valuable insight into how a particular industry works
- Develop your confidence and self-esteem
- Can help you decide if a career path is right for you
- Expand your network of contacts
- Gain positive references to use for future jobs/applications

- Looks good on college, 6th form, UCAS applications
- Will benefit apprenticeship/employment applications
- Shows your interest in your chosen degree / career
- You build essential workplace skills:
  - communication
  - independence
  - resilience
  - workplace knowledge

# Expectations.....

## Be realistic

You are likely to start the placement with very different tasks to how you end your placement.

You may see some tasks as "menial" but these are often part of the job and without which a company can't function!

Some tasks may be restricted due to health and safety regulations or confidentiality.

# Expectations

## Use your creative thinking...

For example, if you want to be a marine biologist but can't travel to the coast you could try:

- The Canal Trust
- The Parks Trust
- Zoo's
- Aquatic Centre etc.
- Garden Centres with aquatic centres attached

# When?

8<sup>th</sup> to 19<sup>th</sup> July 2024

You can do the whole two weeks, or one week, but if you are not on work experience (or on a trip) you will need to be in school.

# Process

- **Feb, March, April, May** – look for placements
- **Friday 7<sup>th</sup> June** – all forms to have been completed and submitted by students, companies and parents/guardians
- **Monday 8<sup>th</sup> July** – start placement

# The Paperwork!

All the paperwork is now completed through your Unifrog account.

Any issues with your account please let us know (careers@ousedale.org.uk).

The link below is the video you saw with the step by step guide.

<https://cdn.unifrog.org/video/d1oea9nec6/480.mp4>



# Approaching companies

We know from experience that employers

- Prefer you visit face to face to ask – emails can be deleted!
- Show an interest
- It can be difficult to approach people for the first time but these companies will want to show you their industry as you are the next generation of employees

# When you find your placement

- Company name
- Contact persons name and email
- Dates you will be on placement
- Address of your placement

# Further support

If you need any guidance or support you can visit the careers team or email us at [careers@ousedale.org.uk](mailto:careers@ousedale.org.uk).

**Good Luck!**