

LINK19 PROSPECTIVES

A GUIDE TO WHAT LINK19 COULD OFFER YOU – JOIN US!



LINK19 College, Gravesend

MICHAEL RUSSELL, STUDENT

Here at LINK19 students work towards achieving an accreditation in Maths and English Functional Skills in a range of levels, including Entry Level 1 to Level 2. In Maths I am working towards a Level 1 and the skills I am learning will help me to get a job in the catering industry. A few of the things I am learning are; to use money and measure weight more confidently, using different types of measuring like grams, kilograms, millilitres, which will be useful when pouring liquid into glasses working in the catering industry. Adding, subtracting and multiplying numbers or using a calculator which will all help me with a job in catering. In English I am working towards a Level 1 and the skills I am learning will help me get a job in the Catering industry after LINK19 college. Some of the skills we learn are debating which helps us learn to listen and respond in a formal setting to others, as well as finding evidence to support answers to reply with a different point of view in a polite way. We also practice filling in forms with our data, and many other aspects which support our speaking, listening, reading and writing skills.



ABOVE: Michael presenting his pizza he has made from scratch



ABOVE: Alex on a catering placement, serving a customer in the workplace.

‘The Catering pathway prepares me for work in the catering industry’

ALEX BROWN, STUDENT

Here at LINK19 I am following the Catering pathway which will prepare me for work in the catering industry through my lessons, accreditations and placements. I have learnt about reading and following recipes, Health and Safety skills, I have been working towards a Food Hygiene Qualification, developing knife skills, wearing PPE and using Maths skills within the kitchen in particular. I have had experience working at the LINK19 Café here on site, where we serve hot drinks, crisps, biscuits, toast and other snacks. We have held and organised special events for; Valentine’s day, Christmas, charity events and coffee mornings and often serve extra items that we have cooked during catering lessons. For all items we make and/or sell we budget and cost, price the ingredients and products and prepare the snacks that we will sell. Sometimes we keep the café open for other students to have a warming hot drink and snack after a long day on their placement.

LINK19 have supported me on my work placements, with my work place supervisor coming with me from LINK19 to ‘Dotty’s Tea Room’ at Kent Life in the café where I served customers, took payments and made drinks. It can be strange working in a new place, but going with my LINK19 support staff there, made me feel safer while I was getting used to it.

BELOW: Lucas on his placement at Darenth Valley Hospital



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I HOPE TO GO INTO RETAIL, WORKING IN A CAFÉ OR RESTAURANT SETTING WHILE FEELING CONFIDENT.

CHRISTINE HASWELL, STUDENT

I did my work experience at the Harvester, working as a waitress, behind the bar and on the salad bar whilst on my Catering pathway. When I did waitressing, one of my duties was to take food to people at their table and listen to requests. On the salad bar I had to make sure the salad was fresh and always full and when the salad was low I went to the kitchen fridges to refill it. I also made sure the tables were set and ready for customers. Finally, I did some washing up and clearing away. I enjoyed my placement and my support worker from LINK19 College supported me in my work experience role. It really helped me to build my confidence when speaking to customers. My work experience and retail pathway has helped me develop the tools I need and get better in areas I wanted to practice. After LINK19 I hope to go into retail, working in a café or restaurant setting while feeling confident.



ABOVE: Jerysan working at ‘Freeways’ for his catering placement, supported by his LINK19 Work Placement Supervisor



ABOVE: Michael on his placement at the Toby Carvery

LEFT: Christine in the kitchen practicing her chopping skills safely using the bridge and claw method

‘I hope after LINK19 to work in the Toby Carvery’

MICHAEL RUSSELL, STUDENT

I had been doing before Covid-19 my work experience at Toby Carvery twice a week. I enjoy work experience at the Toby Carvery because I meet different customers and feel part of a good team that are supportive and helpful when I need advice. I am also supported by my support worker from LINK19 when on a placement. I enjoy LINK19 because it has helped me learn new skills to use in the future. My friends makes me laugh when I need them and see them. After LINK19 I would like to get an apprenticeship at Toby Carvery and hope to be a bus driver in the future. I enjoy working in the café at LINK19 college, serving hot and cold drinks which gives me more catering experience; using the till, handling money, giving change, taking order, preparing drinks and snack and interacting with the customers.

MY RETAIL PATHWAY

My name is Hayley and I am a student in LINK19. I am following a Pathway in Retail. I have worked in a shop and enjoy saying good morning and good afternoon to the customers. I am always happy to help the customers. I like sorting the clothes and DVDS. I like being on the till and taking the customers money and giving them their change. I am very polite to the customers and practice good customer service skills all the time. When I leave college, I will have gained many new skills. I would like to work in Asda.

Retail

CHARLIE ADAMS

RETAIL PATHWAY

My name is Charlie and I am on the retail pathway. I have had work experience at the co-op and in a charity shop. I enjoyed working at the co-op because I was able to stack the milk, sweets and drinks on the shelves independently. I worked alongside new people with the support of my support worker from LINK19. When I worked at Barnardo’s, there was lots to do and I was very busy. I particularly liked working at Barnardo’s, sorting the toys and DVDs. From my work experience, I hope to one day to volunteer in a charity shop.



ABOVE: Tanya on her B & M work placement supported by her Work Placement Supervisor from LINK19 college.

BELOW: Charlie on placement at the Co-op



‘I am supported on my placement by my support worker from LINK19 and gaining independence.’

TANYA NAGPAL – RETAIL PATHWAY

For my retail pathway I go to ‘B & M’ for my work experience. I am happy there and the staff are kind. My support worker from LINK19 college comes with me and supports me with the tasks and activities for the day. This helps me with my confidence, which I have used in other areas of my retail pathway to begin to do more independently. I put things on the shelves, open boxes and help customers who might have questions or need directions. I have learnt to use a safety knife with care and independently. They are lots of jobs for me to learn and I am enjoying my time there. When I leave college, I hope to get a job there which I am working towards.

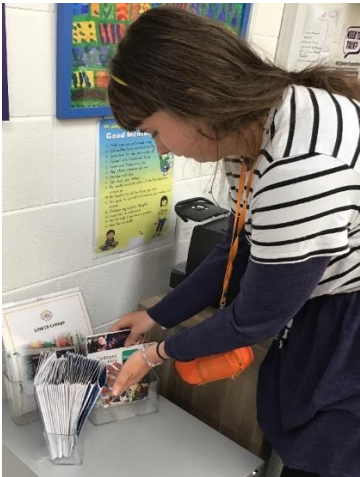
HOSPITALITY

‘I look forward to being on placement’

AMELIA HIGGLESDEN – HOSPITALITY STUDENT

My name is Amelia and I am on the Hospitality pathway. I have been working on the front desk in-house here at LINK19 college as an admin assistant. I do lots of different things like following a list to tell me what I have to do that day and I always finish the list to the best of my abilities. Due to Covid restrictions, my latest placement has been here at LINK19, but I have really enjoyed it and I look forward to the two days when I get to do the placement. It has suited me well because I get to use some of my best qualities which makes me feel confident in the job.

I enjoy being helpful, directing people to where they need to be, reminding staff and students to sign in and out and I am good at being organised which helps me carry out my other tasks.



RIGHT: Amelia working on Reception as part of the Hospitality pathway.

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AARON DOE, STUDENT

My name is Aaron and my pathway is Animal Care and Horticulture. I like it because it is good fun, and I learn about different animals which is what I really enjoy doing. Everyone I work with has been really nice and I enjoy working alongside other people. I work well as a team and I have been able to use this on my work placements. One of my placements was at Hadlow College and here I took part in cleaning out the animals and making sure they have everything they need to be happy, as well as feeding them and checking that they are well. This placement was twice a week and I always really looked forward to it. I learnt a lot when I was on placement and my support worker from LINK19 was always there to support me with all the jobs I was doing. By the end of my placement I was able to work independently and felt confident doing my job without help. I now feel confident about getting a paid job in the future.



ABOVE: Philip on his Construction Pathway work placement at Fenn Bell Inn Zoo.



ABOVE: Charlee on an in-house hospitality placement

‘The Catering pathway prepares me for work in the catering industry’

CHARLEE JAMES

I am following the Hospitality pathway here at LINK19 college. There are a few different ways which we learn about hospitality. We do theory-based work here at the college which includes written work. We visit hotels and get experience working in café and on reception. My favourite part of the course is working at my work experience placement because if you grow to love it you may end up working there if the bosses are happy with your work, following an available interview and being given the job. My recent work experience is helping people at the reception of LINK19 with printing, signing in and delivering letters to classes and also at the Cancer Research charity shop which involves hanging up clothes, pricing stock and putting stock out onto the shop floor. With the Cancer Research charity shop, I enjoy helping my colleagues with pricing and hanging up clothes but also helping out for a cause that is very close to my heart, which meant that I really enjoyed the placement.

LINK19 have helped me understand that it’ll take time for me to ‘come out of my shell’ but once I’ve warmed up they know I will be okay with carrying on with the work and if I needed help I would ask for it as I felt comfortable to ask. Since being at LINK19 College I feel that my confidence has improved.



RIGHT: Bradley working at the Copperfields