



NATIONAL SUPPORTED INTERNSHIP DAY

27 MARCH **2025**

www.dfnprojectsearch.org

Internships
WORK

The Basics

National Supported Internship Day (NSID) was founded by DFN Project SEARCH and takes place on March 27th annually. Last year we launched NSID with the aim of putting supported internships on the map, and thanks to you we achieved that. We reached over 8 million people across the UK and had thousands of individuals and organisations celebrating supported internships.

Building on this momentum, NSID continues to be a collaborative effort with Base and NDTi which will allow us all to reach even more young adults with learning disabilities.

The theme for NSID this year is **empowerment**. A carefully crafted program of activities has been developed to reflect this.

The aim of National Supported Internship Day is to raise awareness supported internships and the challenges facing our sector. This year, the focus is on placing young adults at the forefront of our messaging, sharing their stories across the UK.

We have a planned programme of Parliamentary activity that Youth Futures Foundation have generously agreed to sponsor, which includes a reception for over 80 interns and graduates.

In this pack is information that will assist in making NSID 2025 a success.

For additional details, please reach out to Roberta.
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Overview of Events

Below is an overview of the activity taking place in Parliament for National Supported Internship Day. The range of activity will help us raise awareness of supported internships and help young people to share their stories.

Activity	Date/Time	Notes
Youth Parliament	TBC	Young people will be given the chance to share their stories and advocate for wider supported internship provision.
Business Leaders Roundtable (invite only).	26th March Portcullis House	This is a roundtable for business leaders to discuss challenges and opportunities in the sector.
National Supported Internship Day Debate	TBC Parliament	This is a debate where MPs will raise awareness of SI's.
National Supported Internship Day Drop-in	25th March 1-3pm	An event for MPs to learn about NSID and meet interns and graduates.



This is a list of official NSID activity taking place. However we are actively encouraging organisations across the UK to host their own celebrations.

How can I get involved?

Below are a number of ways you can encourage sites and organisations to get involved with National Supported Internship Day 2025.

Attend an event

We are hosting a variety of events from the first ever youth parliament to a series of impactful webinars! Nominate a young person or register to attend one of our events.

Host an Event

Whether you are a business or an educator, we want you to unleash your creativity and host your own NSID celebratory event.



Enter a Competition

We are hosting our annual People's Choice Competition this year! Get creative and host an event, bake a cake or do something outside of the box to enter!

Write to your MP

We have created a template letter that you can use to share your thoughts on supported internships with your MP. Let them know why high-quality supported internship provision is important!

Social Media

Spread the word! We will be releasing social media resource but in the meantime use the hashtags #NSID25 and #NationalSupportedInternshipDay to share case studies & more!

Nominate a Young Person to attend the Youth Parliament

In celebration of National Supported Internship Day, we are organising the first ever Youth Parliament specifically for interns and program graduates. We need your help in raising awareness about this exciting opportunity! We are asking you to spread the word and nominate a young person to apply to attend.

The Event

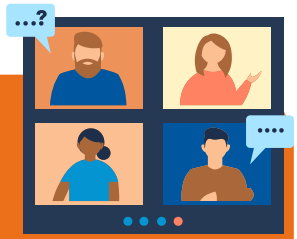
Interns and graduates will gather in Parliament to share their stories and discuss a variety of important topics in front of an audience of their fellow interns, business leaders and politicians.

How to apply

Please complete an application form by 4pm on **March 3rd 2025**. Applications will then be assessed and those who are successful will be notified by Monday 7th March. You can access the form by scanning the QR code or clicking [here](#).

The final event date and time will be announced imminently but we suspect it will be March 24th or 25th.





Webinars

Attend one of our webinars!

Please find below a series of online webinars on National Supported Internship Day that we would appreciate your support to advertise.

A Webinar for **people who want to become Employer Ambassadors** run by people with lived experience of Supported Internship Programmes. Please register [here](#)

A Webinar for **our existing Employer Ambassadors** to hear from people with lived experience about the difference employers and employment makes for young adults with a learning disability and autistic young adults. A webinar of appreciation and challenge to see what more you can do and why all that you do as employer ambassadors is so important. Register [here](#).

A webinar for young people – distributed by schools, colleges, and careers and enterprise staff. A session run by young people with lived experience that explains what a supported internship is, how it works and the benefits. Register [here](#).

A webinar for parents and carers – find out from young people and their parents and carers about Supported Internships and how they can provide a valuable route for work for young people with special educational needs and disabilities. Register [here](#).

Visit a local school to raise awareness of our work!

This year we are encouraging young people to lead the conversation in raising awareness of supported internships.

Back to school!

Do you have an intern or graduate who may be willing to speak at their previous school or college?

National Supported Internship Day is a fantastic opportunity to connect with local schools and request time in an assembly/class session for a former student to share their experience and inspire future potential interns.

We have enclosed an example set of slides that you can edit but we encourage you to tweak these and co-produce them with your interns and graduates.

You can access a powerpoint template for school visits **here**.

We would love to hear about any activity you arrange. Please email lauren.davies@dfnprojectsearch.org to share your experience.

Light up a Monument

We would like you to join us in participating in a campaign to celebrate National Supported Internship Day on 27th by lighting up landmarks across the UK in NSID colours. This will highlight the brilliant work of all supported internships across the UK on 27th March.

Step by Step Guide

1. Identify a Local Landmark: Find a prominent landmark in your community to light up in support of the campaign.
2. Coordinate with Authorities: Contact your local authority to request permission to light up the landmark.
3. Use the Official Colour: The campaign's official colour is orange, and the colour code is: #FF9900
4. Inform Us: After submitting your request, email us at harry.georgiou@dfnprojectsearch.org so that we can keep track of all the landmarks being lit up and promote this campaign in the most impactful way possible.
5. Celebrate Together: On the 27th of March 2025, join us in lighting up landmarks across the UK to celebrate the impact of supported internships. Feel free to post any photos, videos and any other content across your social media and use the hashtag #NSID25 to show off your local landmark being lit up

Write to your Member of Parliament

This activity is open to all. Everyone could and should write to their local MP to share why supported internships are important to them and also raise concerns or challenges that are facing your sector at a local or national level. Feel free to use the below template.

STEP 1: FIND YOUR LOCAL MP

Enter your post code [here](#) to find out who your local MP is and their contact details.

STEP 2: DRAFT YOUR EMAIL

You can write your own email or use the template on the next page. .

STEP 3: SEND YOUR EMAIL



Write to your MP

Template

(Insert Your Address)

Dear X,

I am writing to you as a constituent, asking for your support for young adults with learning disabilities and/or autism spectrum conditions in our constituency.

Did you know that only 4.8% of young adults in England with a learning disability known to their local authority are employed?

Supported internships are a work-based program of study that provides young adults with both qualifications and practical skills to successfully transition into the workplace.

Supported internships are important to me because (FILL IN THE BLANK)...

However, we are facing several challenges. Including (FILL IN THE BLANK)...

You can support this vital pathway by raising awareness of National Supported Internship Day on March 27th, 2025. There is a variety of activity taking place in Parliament, and I hope you will represent your constituents at them.

As my constituency MP, please:

- Attend the National Supported Internship Day drop-in
- Sign the National Supported Internship Day EDM.
- Visit a local supported internship program.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,
[Your Name]

Social Media

The purpose of National Supported Internship Day is to raise awareness of supported internships, and we need your help to do this. NSID is an incredible opportunity to shine a spotlight on the importance of supported internships in empowering young people with disabilities to pursue their career aspirations. By sharing your experiences, insights, and successes on social media, you can inspire others to join the movement towards greater inclusivity in the workplace.

Last year we reached over 8 million people online! Your posts have the power to raise awareness, foster understanding, and encourage employers to embrace diversity and create more inclusive hiring practices.

We have created a series of digital assets to help get you started.

You can access the assets by [clicking here](#).

New content will be added to this folder on a weekly basis.

