



Manchester
Metropolitan
University



Bridging the Gap



BRIDGING THE GAP

Through the Bridging the Gap (BtG) programme, Manchester Metropolitan offers work experience to Special Educational Needs students from Manchester and Trafford borough.

Each term, students carry out a work placement within a University department which helps them develop their employability skills and gain on-the-job experience.

Currently, the BtG students are placed in the Library, Mail Service, Print Services, Catering and Facilities Management teams across campus.



THE BENEFITS

The scheme presents benefits for both the students on placement and Manchester Metropolitan staff:

- creating opportunities for Manchester Metropolitan staff to develop mentoring skills and leadership qualities.
- supporting inclusion in the community.
- giving access to a pool of hidden talent – people who offer enthusiasm and a fresh perspective.
- promoting equality and diversity in the workplace and raising disability awareness.

The students can:

- share their energy and knowledge, increasing their aspirations.
- experience being in a working environment and learning about the demands and etiquette involved in day-to-day work.
- learn new skills and update existing skills to meet the needs of a fast-moving modern workplace.
- build overall confidence, motivation and well-being.
- gain a better understanding of the job market.

Each student is supervised and supported by a job coach. Job coaches are on site daily and will offer practical support to students whilst on the job, and liaise with Manchester Metropolitan and school staff.



NEW OPPORTUNITIES

If you and your department would like to help raise young people's aspirations by providing a new placement, please contact Hannah Owen, Equality and Diversity Project Officer, or alternatively, Nicola Kirkland, BtG senior job coach.

- **Hannah Owen**
Equality and Diversity Project Officer
equalities@mmu.ac.uk
- **Nicola Kirkland**
Pre-internship Senior Job Coach
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