

Study Programme Case Study

Joshua Taljaard



At Prospect Training Services (PTS), we have a wide range of clients that are looking for learners to take under their wing to provide them with experience that is crucial for future employment opportunities. This includes the IT Schools in Africa (ITSA), a computer recycling charity that provides digital education to people both in Africa and England. They have worked with PTS in the past with work placements and have always been impressed with our help. Recently, ITSA took on board one of our learners, Joshua Taljaard, for some work experience; here is how he got on.

Joshua recently moved to England from South Africa but was unable to gain access to education. Struggling, he turned to PTS for support and, after talking to our team, decided that a Study Programme was right for him. This allows him to gain valuable work experience which he is currently undergoing at ITSA. During his placement, Joshua has been working on repairing laptops, PCs and installations. When he first started, he was given an induction to the role, which included what was expected of him and the team he'd be working with. With the help of his manager and colleagues, he has established new skills that he has been keen to try out outside of his placement. "From being on work experience with ITSA I have learnt so much and now feel comfortable with the skills I have developed with working on laptops and PCs, I'm able to use the knowledge that I have learnt to put into practice with my own laptop at home. My employer has been so helpful with everything. If I encounter a problem, they have been able to support me through it. I get along really well with everyone there."

Joshua's manager, Chris Rolfe, is extremely impressed with his work ethic and believes he fits into the team really well. "Josh has been an excellent help to us," he commented. "He has a very good attitude to his work and balances asking questions with using his own initiative. He has shown very pleasing development and rarely makes the same mistake twice."

As Joshua is continuing his placement, he is working to gain additional qualifications to boost his chances of finding a job after his programme. He already has completed his Ascentis Level 1 Progression Award and is now taking on many sessions including GCSEs in maths and English, Skills for Work and Skills for Life. "With maths and English, I feel a lot more comfortable with learning and enjoy all my lessons. I feel the support at PTS is perfect, the course is right for me and I feel it is better than being in a private or public school."

Joshua has really enjoyed his programme so far and would recommend it to anyone who needs help with their education. "I've found it really helpful; I have learnt so much and everyone is very supportive. There is always someone to talk to if I need to. It is good for finding different routes into education and everyone is really supportive."

We wish Joshua the best of luck with the rest of his programme.

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Study Programme Case Study

Antonio Bottomley



At Prospect Training Services (PTS), we understand that finding a job can be tough, which is why we have a wide range of support available to get people into employment. Our Study Programmes are designed to help our learners not only find employment, but a career they love and are proud of. This has been the case for Antonio Bottomley, who is currently on a Study Programme with us and because of this, has found the career path for him.

Before Antonio came to PTS, he was desperately trying to find employment, but to no avail. Thus, to help with his search, he came to us to seek support with finding a career that aligned with his interests. After speaking to the team at PTS, he was placed on a Study Programme, which included sessions in English and maths and a work placement in a field of his choice – this was ideal for not only his personal development but also for future career options.

As part of his programme, Antonio spoke to Kath Chapman, our Careers and Work Placement Co-ordinator, about where he would like to work and where his skills could be best utilised. After discussing his options for job placements, she recommended Mayhill Woodlands. His placement allowed him to work in the field of forestry which included planting, managing and caring for forests. Thereafter, Antonio stated that he really enjoys working there and the staff are really lovely to work with, accentuating that “they have boosted my confidence. We both have the same mindset and the person I work with is very easy to get on with.” He enjoys his placement so much that he even wants to go into forestry as a career! “With the work placement, it has made me decide that it is a career that I want to pursue.”

As a result, Antonio feels grateful for the support he’s received from PTS and that we really helped him with his job search. “If you don’t know what you want to do they work with you to find this out.”

We wish Antonio all the best with the rest of his programme and work placement.

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Study Programme Case Study

Benjamin Gyasi Mami



At Prospect Training Services (PTS), we are fortunate enough to welcome students on an international scale. Many arrive with the bare minimum, not understanding the language or the culture. This is why, unlike other colleges, our personalised services allow support to be given where necessary. In addition to their programme, we develop pastoral care that enables them to study British Values and what it's like to live in the UK. So, in time, they will develop the confidence and self-esteem to fully express themselves and unlock their potential. This has been the case for Benjamin Gyasi Mami, who is currently enrolled in our Study Programme.

Benjamin came to England from Africa and wanted some support seeking employment. To help him, he turned to PTS for help and guidance. After a discussion with our team, he felt that a full-time Study Programme would be best for him and his future career goals. His Study Programme mainly focuses on work placement, and he chose to work twice a week at Pebbles Nursery, a childcare centre in Gloucester that looks after children aged 0-5. So far, he is enjoying his placement and has received a lot of positive comments from his employer, including how he is always early for his placement.

As part of his programme, he is also taking sessions in English and maths, which he feels is allowing him to build his confidence and help express himself better when speaking.

Thanks to PTS, he feels that he is on the right path in life and wants to go to college after the programme. "It is very good. The courses at PTS are very good," he commented. "They help to build your confidence and teach you British rules."

We hope that Benjamin has settled into our country well and that his programme continues to be enjoyable for him. From experience, we realise this isn't always easy; we are so proud of the progress he has already made and the perseverance he has shown.

Well done, Benjamin!

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Study Programme Case Study

Fairview Gardeners



Ameila Andrews

If you're looking for support finding work or gaining valuable qualifications, then Prospect Training Services (PTS) can help. Our promise is to give you a welcoming and nurturing environment, both at our centres and at any of your work placements. This was the case for Amelia Andrews, who, thanks to us, has successfully completed her work experience at Fairview Gardeners.

Before her placement, Amelia wanted help looking for work, as she was new to the area and not in education. Instead, she decided to turn to PTS for support. After talking with our specialist tutors, she emphasised that she wanted to gain some work experience with plants and flowers. After speaking with our Careers and Work Placement Co-Ordinator, Kath Chapman, Amelia thought a work placement at Fairview Gardeners was perfect.

Fairview Gardeners were more than happy to take on Amelia, who was placed under the supervision of Glen, one of the owners of the centre. Judging by the feedback, Amelia has been outstanding during her time there, and projecting PTS in the best light possible. Glen even went out of his way to express how her hard work and attitude haven't gone unnoticed, stressing that "Amelia has grown throughout her placement; she has turned out to be a great colleague to the rest of our staff and the customers who come in on a daily basis."

Furthermore, she has mentioned that the support from PTS has been exceptional. "It's been really good. I have felt very welcome since joining; a Study Programme is perfect for those wanting to find a job that they want while doing their qualifications at the same time."

Amelia is looking to continue her work at Fairview Gardeners, and we wish her all the best of luck with this.

Well done, Amelia. We are so proud of you!

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Study Programme Case Study

L'una Designs



Tristen Taljaard

It's not every day that we find ourselves writing not one case study for one of our learners but, in fact, two of them! Not too long ago, our learner, Tristen Taljaard, came to us to seek the qualifications to help start his new life in the UK. To gain some experience, Tristen was offered a week's work experience at Howdens Builder's Academy, doing kitchen fitting.

Fast-forward to now, and Tristen has made some astonishing progress in his career development at PTS. This time, whilst still undertaking his English and maths GCSEs, Tristen has been involved in a placement at L'una Designs in their Kitchen Installations department.

L'una Designs, who are based in Cheltenham, reached out to us to give one of our hard-working learners a chance to prove themselves in the working industry. Their objective is to offer young people opportunities that may not always be available to them. During Tristen's time there, he has proven to take on activities that involve an overview of the company and its services, witnessing what the company does for their clients, staff, and career progression, and then, finally, training on the job and administering safety procedures and social skills. In response to this, L'una Designs has said that "Tristen has settled in very well with the team; he is always punctual and polite within the organisation and with our customers. He also has a huge will to learn and develop".

We are so happy to hear that Tristen has done so well on his placement; he has even gone on to say, that "I believe I have grown in confidence, and it has significantly increased. I have learned how to communicate effectively with my employers and fellow employees. Also, I have found it really helpful to have different experiences within this industry". Furthermore, in response to the service PTS has provided so far, Tristen has said that "PTS opens the door to so many opportunities. They can help someone find what they want to do even if they are unsure on how to get there".

It doesn't stop there, either! During his spare time, Tristen has recently started working part-time at Flight Club, in Cheltenham, as a bartender! Wow.

As a team, PTS is so proud of Tristen's progress since joining us, we hope he keeps it up and achieves his dream on being an architect – we believe in you!

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Study Programme Case Study

Bells Hotel and Country Club



Callum Morton

At Prospect Training Services (PTS), we specialise in offering individualised support to all of our young people, as well as assisting them with their needs, requirements, and career development. We offer a range of pathways that can help the person in question, presenting them with an array of avenues such as tailor-made work experience, study programmes, apprenticeships, and traineeships. Callum Morton, who came to PTS in search of something to help further his career, is yet another excellent example of a learner thriving outside of the classroom while simultaneously creating a great impression on one of our partners, Bells Hotel and Country Club.

After deciding that college was not in his best interests, Callum sat with our Learner Support Supervisor, Jane Trehearne, and both established that a Study Programme with a work placement was perfect. Based in the Forest of Dean, the Bells Hotel and Country Club is perfect for a remote getaway, offering accommodation, an on-site restaurant, and a range of luxurious amenities. Callum embarked on jobs like prepping the food in the kitchen to aid the chefs and occasionally helping the cleaning staff with any jobs they had available for him. In response to Callum's efforts, the managers and staff on his shifts were keen to highlight that he was "polite, well presented, friendly, and keen to learn. He's always arriving on time and working well with the rest of the team".

As Callum is nearing the end of his work placement, he has been really happy with the support he has received from PTS thus far. He went so far as to say that "I had no direction in my career; I didn't know what to do. Thankfully, PTS spoke with me and helped me get back on the right track". In addition, he claimed that "the programme is simple and rewarding; the support is fantastic".

We have noticed a colossal difference in Callum's attitude towards life and learning capabilities. The team at PTS are really proud of Callum and the exceptional work he is doing at the Bells Hotel and Country Club. We hope that it continues and that he is able to attribute his skills learnt in this work placement to another job prospect in the future.

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Study Programme Case Study

St Oswald's Village



Hollie James

Here at Prospect Training Services (PTS), we always go the extra mile for our young learners who are keen on developing their careers. Over the years, PTS has built a huge network of around 540 employers in Gloucestershire, and we have a team of officers who work with employers every day to support young people into placement, further progression, employment or apprenticeships.

After deciding college was not for her, Hollie James came to PTS as she sought to acquire some experience in the Health and Social Care sector. With this being a new endeavour for Hollie, she needed some extra support to help find her a valuable work placement. Having sat with one of our officers, PTS managed to find the perfect opportunity for Hollie to start her career – a placement at St. Oswald's Village.

During her time at this care facility, Hollie took on tasks such as shadowing skilled staff members, supporting the workforce by continually offering her assistance when feasible, and working with the care coordinator to seek out management duties. In response to this, the team at St. Oswald's Village have been impressed with Hollie's efforts and progress over the course of the placement. They went on to say that "Hollie got on very well at St Oswald's – positive feedback all-around. She's a lovely girl and proved to be very helpful to us".

Having completed her work placement, Hollie is past her days of being anxious and worried, as she has commended PTS saying that "I have enjoyed being at PTS and the work placement – it has helped me with my confidence". With Hollie attaining such a knack for Health and Social Care, she revealed in the days that followed that she was keen on returning to St. Oswald's Village. This time, speaking with the care manager to seek any volunteering positions.

We are deeply proud of Hollie and the progress she has not only made in her desired career path but also in the faith she has shown in herself since starting the work placement programme with us at PTS. We wish Hollie the best of luck for the future!

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Study Programme Case Study

Stroud Road Services



Esther Okuneye

Our mission, at Prospect Training Services (PTS), is to provide as many students as possible with enough qualifications and experience to take them to the next step in their careers. If they have a dream, we will do everything in our power to ensure that they leave PTS with the capability to pursue what they would like to do. After all, our youth programme tagline is: “unlock your potential, shape your future”. With the help of our team, not only do we offer GCSEs in maths and English, but we also work with employers on a daily basis to support young people into placement, further progression, employment or apprenticeships.

Esther Okuneye, who left high school in Nigeria, came to England determined to pursue a career in pharmacy. Thus, she arrived at PTS wanting to be able to gain some beneficial experience in the Health and Social care sector, alongside attaining her GCSEs. So, we got to work and managed to find Esther a work placement at Stroud Road Pharmacy, with the addition of weekly sessions in employability and personal development at PTS.

Over the course of Esther’s time at the pharmacy, she acquired a copious number of skills. With the supportive guidance of the supervisor Kelly Lee, she was able to learn about medicine, antibiotics and prescriptions – and, later on, being able to locate where each medicine was stored; also, Esther stood behind the counter and communicated with patients, helping find medication, whilst concurrently looking up the details of certain customers. It is because of this work ethic that Kelly went on to say that “Esther was an incredibly useful student at the pharmacy, she is a bright person and represented PTS really well”.

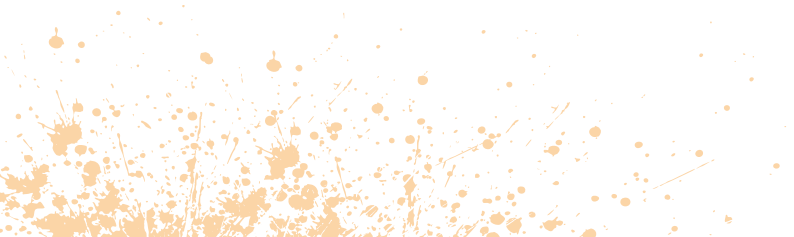
As her time with Stroud Road Pharmacy came to an end, Esther was really grateful for the chance, provided by both PTS and the pharmacy, to obtain hands-on experience in her chosen industry. She went on to say that “before I didn’t really have any routes into getting my dream career, but PTS helped me find a route to help me begin the journey. If I had not been given a work placement, I would not have had the opportunity to get a work experience at such a brilliant place”.

If that wasn’t enough, Esther prospered further by being offered a volunteering job one day-a-week at the pharmacy, on top of paid work on the weekends!

We are really proud of Esther’s progress in her maths and English GCSEs, and the evident impression she made on not just PTS, but her colleagues at Stroud Road Pharmacy. She was simply a delight to have, and we hope we have many people like Esther come to us further down the line.

Good luck, Esther!

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Study Programme Case Study

Howdens Builder's Academy



Ibrahim Drame and Neil Suttle

We're always proud of our learners' and enjoy celebrating achievements. We recently received some amazing feedback from one of our Study Programme learners, Ibrahim Drame, who just completed a week of work experience at Howden's Building Academy in Cheltenham.

Before PTS, he was working shifts at Burger King and Kaspas, but wanted to work as a bricklayer. When he came to PTS, he decided he wanted to participate in a Study Programme, which would allow him to gain the qualifications he needed.

As part of this programme, Ibrahim attended a week-long course at Howdens Builder's Academy with four other learners under the supervision of Howdens Builder's Academy's, Neil Suttle. The beginning of the week consisted of an induction that explained the academy's rules and expectations. Ibrahim, alongside the other learners, was taught how to install parts of a kitchen and use tools safely. Ibrahim used the skills he learnt during the week to cut worktops and panels. He showed a positive behaviour throughout his work placement and extremely enjoyed working at Howdens.

Ibrahim's programme also consists of Employment and Personal and Social Development sessions Level 2 in English and maths. He also really enjoys these, particularly his English lessons. "I enjoy the interactive tasks and activities rather than just writing," he commented. "The support from staff has helped a lot."

So far, Ibrahim has enjoyed his time at PTS. He is continuing his lessons whilst working with Kath Chapman, the Work Placement and Careers Coordinator at PTS, to find additional work experience. "It is amazing," Ibrahim commented. He said he would recommend PTS to others as it "might point them in the direction of what they want to do if they are unsure."

Well done Ibrahim in your placement at Howdens Builder's Academy! Good luck with the rest of your Study Programme!

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Study Programme Case Study

Sujan Rai



Sujan came from Nepal to the UK on the 20th of October 2021 to find a better education, particularly a qualification in Health and Social Care and a chance to improve his English and maths.

He joined Prospect Training Services (PTS) and took on a Level 2 qualification in Health and Social Care, which included working towards his Level 2 in Functional Skills English, Entry Level 3 Functional Skills in maths, and a work placement at St Oswald's. During his placement, Sujan said that his employer was lovely. He commented that "it was a good working environment; they were friendly and always tried to help." He also took on Personal Social Development courses and Employability courses. Throughout the programme, he felt he was allowed to progress and gain confidence and wisdom.

Sujan felt that his tutors were extremely helpful towards him. "They explained everything and had a lot of knowledge. There were excellent systems at PTS, and the managing system was really good. PTS sorted out everything and tried to help in every way. Maxine was very helpful and had lots of different knowledge of other things. Debbie always tried to give information and helped in every possible way."

Sujan is now working at Greggs in Cheltenham as a Team Leader and is enjoying his employment there. He is hoping to go to Gloucester College to study his Level 3 in Health and Social Care.

Sujan really enjoyed his time at PTS. He said that "it is a nice place to study, everyone is friendly, and no one discriminates. I am really happy to get an opportunity to be a part of PTS. I have learned different things about the course, and I have also learned about the other things which will help me in my future job. I feel like I had chosen a good path to achieve my goals."

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