



ABBOT'S LEA SCHOOL

Headteacher: Mrs Ania Hildrey, FCCT, B.Ed(Hons), M.Ed, NPQH, NPQEL



17 October 2023

Dear Families

Ref: Supported Internship for 2023 – 2024

I am delighted to write to you today with exciting news that we will be extending our Supported Internship (also known as SI) offer to students in Key Stage 5, offering three additional in-house SI places, starting in Term 2.

The offer was launched with the students during last week's assembly and the students were shown a presentation explaining what SI programme looks like, and what to expect. Time was allowed for questions and we are pleased to say that there are already a number of interested students expressing interest in the programme.

Whilst the staff will always make the time to answer questions arising, I would like to ask you to have a conversation with your child about this opportunity to see if it might be the right pathway for them. To help with this, I share with you some facts:

- SI is a work-based programme for students in Key Stage 5, who feel that they are ready to change their learning focus from that of a class-based learning to work-based learning;
- The programme will start on 6 November 2023 and end on the last Friday of June 2024 (or sooner, if students excel and are ready to move on to other destinations)
- This scheme is seen as the last phase of educational provision within Abbot's Lea School and so, students applying for the SI would be leaving ALS in June 2024, or sooner if they secure employment or an FE College course beforehand (this also means that one cannot secure SI placement and then, having completed it, return to class-based studying, or start another internship within the school);
- SI enables interns to gain employability skills and a better understanding of expectations of being an employee as they learn these skills working as part of a team;
- Interns will be part our School Business Support team for 4 days a week supporting its various functions (including Administration, Customer Service, IT, Facilities, Catering, Cleaning, Groundwork), and 1 study day completing English, Maths and any related SI coursework.
- Students interested in applying will need to complete an online application (this will be shared with the students in the coming days and time and support will be given for them to apply whilst at school, although they will be able to access the link to the application at home, too). The deadline for applying is **Sunday, 22 October 2023 8pm** for consideration on Monday, 23 October 2023.

I hope you support your child with the consideration of this offer, which, over the years, provided to be a fantastic pathway for those (nearly) ready to move on! The destinations of all of our Supported Intern students over the past few years are truly inspiring.

Yours sincerely

Mrs A Hildrey
Headteacher