

Project Choice



Making a difference in
CDDFT libraries

Background/Context

- Supported internship programme for young people with learning disabilities/autism aged 16-24
- Funded by Health Education England
- Internships consist of 3 placements in the year and last 10-12 weeks

How did we get involved?

- Approached by Project Choice team
- Ensure that right learner is allocated to suitable placement by viewing profile
- Project Choice team selected Nathan

The Placement

- First year that department had been involved with Project Choice
- Initial pre-meet with Nathan
- Working 4 days a week for 12 weeks
- Given routine Library Assistant tasks

Challenges

- New experience
- Preconceptions of autism

Benefits

- Improved confidence levels of individual
- Bonded library team
- Greater awareness of autism – subsequently attended courses and been involved with campaigns

Reflections....

- Enriching and positive experience – “watching him grow and blossom”
- Challenged our own views and opinions
- Taking on a new student in the future
- Nathan now working as a Business Admin Apprentice at Bishop Auckland

Any questions?

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THANK YOU