

# FORCE FOR GOOD RESOURCE & TRAINING



## Supported Internship at John Lewis

Alex and Lewis both started college on our Supported Internship course in September 2022 at Central Bedfordshire College. They were both unsure what they would like to do for a work placement and struggled with motivation for this. Alex has ADHD and OHD and Lewis has ASD and dyslexia. Meaning that a practical work placement would be ideal for them. After speaking with John Lewis, they were both offered for a site tour of Magna Park to learn more about the job roles at John Lewis and to see what they thought of potentially having a work placement here. Both really enjoyed their visits and overwhelmed with excitement to start a work placement here.



**CENTRAL  
BEDFORDSHIRE  
COLLEGE**



They started their work placement at John Lewis on the 10th of January spending the first week training on workstations in bin to bin, DOSR, YOSR and SIPPS. With the fantastic training and support from the staff they completed this training in just two days and can see in the picture above just what this meant to them, not only being given this opportunity but how proud they both were and something they never thought they would achieve a few months ago.

They are both now working well in replenishment, can work independently and have gained incredible confidence from when they first started. For example, one of their first targets set by me was for them to arrive at the managers desk and greet the management and ask themselves where they would like them to work rather than me doing it for them.



For Alex with ADHD he has lots of energy and normally struggles to keep his concentration at college, this energy in his brain was now being occupied doing a practical job and suits him and his needs.

Lewis struggles academically with his ASD and dyslexia therefore having a practical, visual job works perfectly for him.





A lot has changed for these boys now, they independently travel to placement themselves without any support. Originally before starting placement Lewis only knew how to get from his house to college. Now Lewis gets two different buses to placement in an area he had never travelled to by public transport.

**“** Lewis - I am now in hope of getting a paid job at John Lewis working 10am till 6pm which will be amazing and I am glad that I have made it this far.



Alex - John Lewis has woken me up to the real world on how life works. I have met nice people and it's made me realise there are nice people to work with which makes my job more enjoyable.



In replenishment the boys have completed training in areas bin to bin, DOSR, SIPPS, YOSR and now Returns. Little extra explanation that has been given to them and visual training has helped them to be very successful in their learning. For example, when training on the scanners for returns explaining to Lewis who struggles with reading to look for the colours changing on the screen and what that would mean helps him understand and what to look out for.

They have developed great work ethic along their journey, time management, work behaviour, helping others and learning what is socially acceptable at work. With the John Lewis staff having patience, positive attitude, taking the time to show them tips and skills the boys feel comfortable in the workplace and their confidence is thriving.



Since their placement at John Lewis started, the boys have made top picker in bin to bin. This was an amazing achievement, I have never seen these boys so proud of themselves and full of smiles and confidence. To achieve this, has meant the world to them both and now they are very excited about the potential of becoming a John Lewis Partner. Having the incentive of getting their name on the board as top picker is a brilliant idea, it works well as they have something to work towards and feel a sense of achievement that both boys do not get often in life. As soon as they got top picker, they asked for their pictures to be taken with the board so they could share this with their families and the rest of the staff at Central Bedfordshire College. As you can see from the pictures, the boys are so pleased, they have had this opportunity as a work placement.