

# Work Experience

Impact 2023-24

The Switch's Work Experience programme broadens career goals and offers Tower Hamlets students valuable professional insights. We help students secure placements in their chosen industries and work with hosts to ensure a successful, enriching experience that inspires future success.

## Project Reach



**215**

Employers



**8**

Schools



**1077**

Students



**11**

Industries



**12**

Cohorts

## Student Feedback

As a result of Work Experience, students told us...



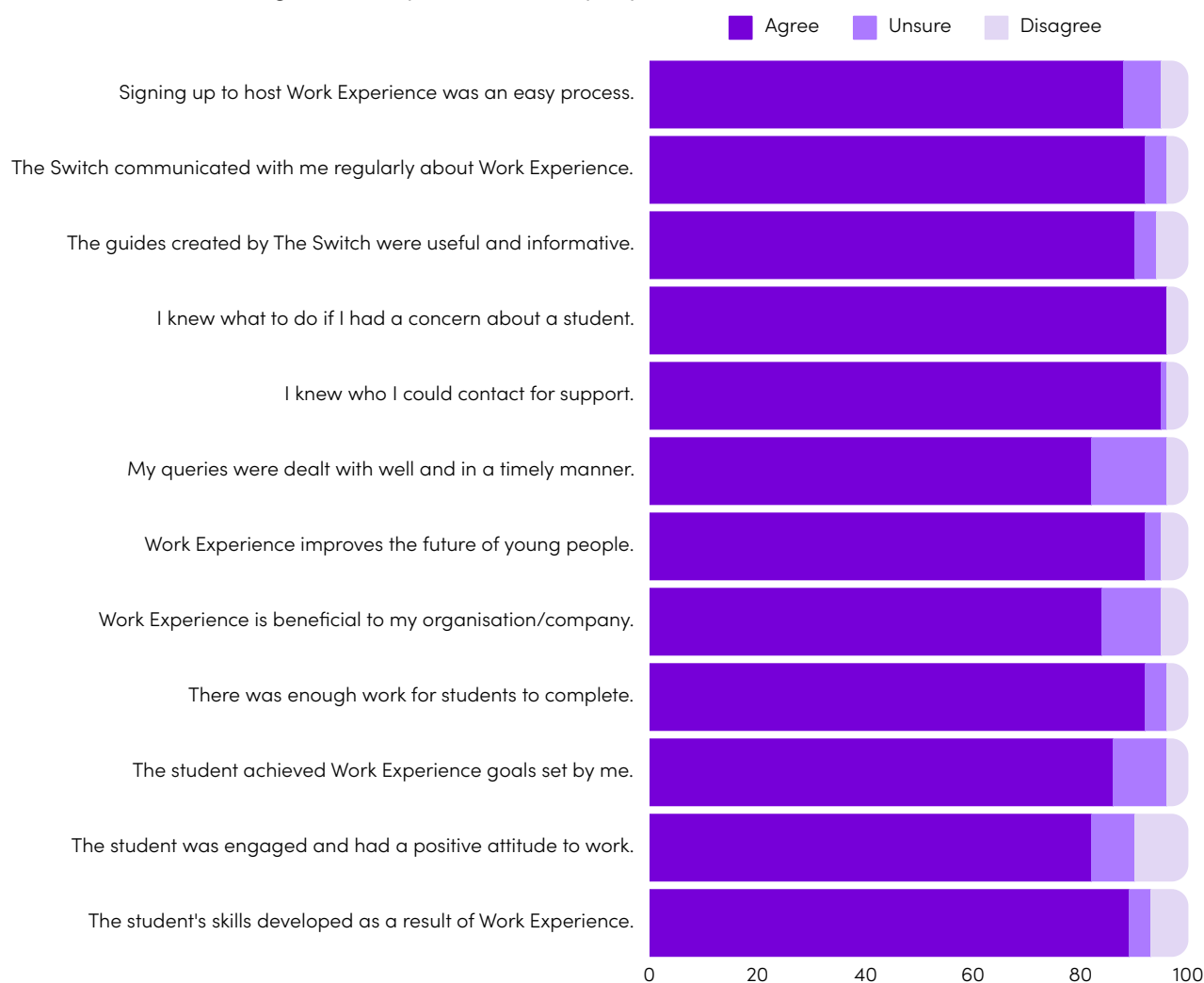
On average...

**Students rated Work Experience 4 out of 5.**



## Employer Feedback

As a result of hosting Work Experience, employers told us...



"We had 3 students for work experience at the British Red Cross and we absolutely loved hosting them. They were filled with enthusiasm which in turn created an enjoyable hosting opportunity for those teams that took part. They exceeded our expectations and we'd definitely be willing to host more students provided by the Switch!"

**British Red Cross, Work Experience Host,  
2023-24**

88%

of employers enjoyed hosting  
a student for Work Experience.



# Titan Data's Story

Work Experience

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"I think it is really important for us to try and give something back to the community. There are a lot of young people out there that just need some direction, so by hosting Work Experience, we can show them what work might be like and give them some guidance for their next steps after school." - Lula

**In July 2024, The Switch partnered with Titan Data to deliver Work Experience placements in the IT sector.**

**Many of our students were eager to explore this sector, so these placements were designed to give them valuable insight into the data science and tech industry. Over the course of three weeks, Titan Data hosted eight students in Years 10 and 12, representing three local schools.**

During their placements, students rotated through each department, working on projects that gave them a holistic understanding of how the company operates. As one student from George Green's School reflected:

"I understand more about the different fields and departments, like Sales and Solutions. It has been very useful and I now understand the whole business."

For Titan Data, Work Experience is about more than giving young people experience in their sector. Below, Lula shares why work experience is vital to young people in Tower Hamlets:

"We work in Canary Wharf, and there is so much money in it, and yet you come out and turn right, and you are suddenly faced with such a different reality. It can sometimes feel like a glass bubble, and it is great to give local students the opportunity to break through the barriers and experience this glass bubble that is literally at their doorsteps."

Students also recognise the value of Work Experience, with one student sharing:

"If you are confused about what you want to do, or you just want to see what opportunities are out there [...] then you should definitely do work experience. [...] I didn't know what I wanted to do, and now I have been given the opportunity to explore this – I recommend it to all students who feel the same."

The Switch's Work Experience programme will continue in 2024/2025, so more students can have valuable work opportunities with organisations such as Titan Data.

# AECOM's Story

Work Experience

the  
switch



"The team I work in, Stakeholder Engagement, spends a lot of time with communities and it is really nice to do something more local to our offices and host students from Tower Hamlets. It helps us to keep in touch with our local community." - Tabitha

**This year, AECOM hosted 3 students in Years 10 and 12 for one-week Work Experience placements.**

Students split their time shadowing members of AECOM's Stakeholder Engagement Consultation and Communications teams (SECC), gaining a variety of experiences. They provided project support on real-world, live projects and had the chance to join AECOM on site visits. At the beginning of the week, students took personality tests to identify personal strengths and enable them to set targets for the week. They referred back to their results throughout the week to see their progress and identify areas for improvement. Additionally, students participated in CV workshops and career guidance activities designed to help them better understand what career they may wish to pursue in the future.

For Tabitha, Work Experience offers many benefits:

"I have been getting our team of graduates involved as it is a really good chance for them to improve their mentoring and management skills, whilst creating a good role model system for the work experience students.

It is great for our team's Social Value initiatives, and it's really given our team a boost to be involved in something so positive.

I think it's really important for young people to have direct access to this type of opportunity, especially for those who might not have a professional mentor in their family or friendship circles. I was really lucky growing up to have supportive people in my life to offer professional advice, and I wouldn't be where I am today without them. That's why I think it's really important to be able to offer that support to someone else - it's important to give back."

Find out more about [Work Experience](#) and get in touch if your company is interested in hosting Work Experience at [work.experience@theswitch.org](mailto:work.experience@theswitch.org).

[theswitch.org](https://theswitch.org)