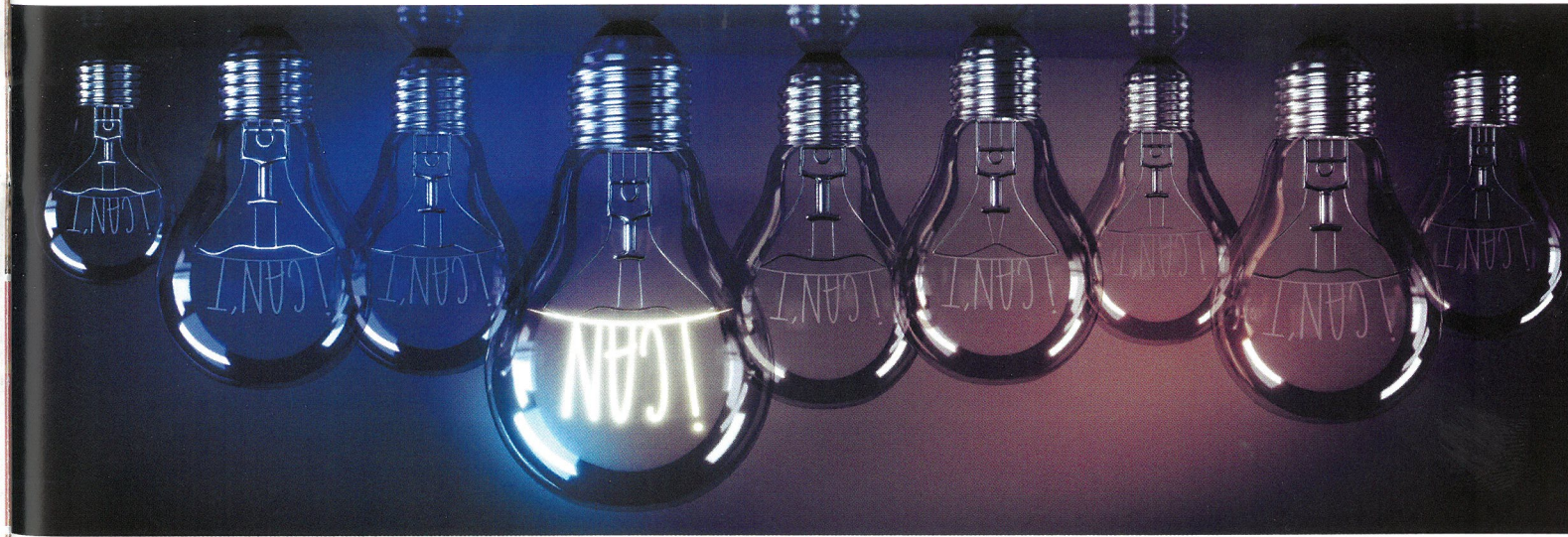




Confidence, Independence, Responsibility WSC Warehouse Team Supports Local Students



SATCoL's Wellingborough Support Centre Warehouse has welcomed students from a local school for over 5 years. Isebrook School specialises in supporting 11 to 18 year old children and young adults with cognition and learning difficulties. Work Experience is part of the school's Pathway for Adulthood curriculum. Work Experience helps students to be inspired, explore the world of work, develop valuable employability skills and gain meaningful insight into the real world of work while developing confidence in their own strengths and potential for their futures.

We asked Lesley Chattaway, Work Experience Coordinator at Isebrook School, more about the scheme and what it means to their students.

What year did the partnership begin?

The partnership began in January 2020, when the first group of students from our programme started working with SATCoL. It's been running successfully ever since.

Why did you approach SATCoL?

The initial link was made by a previous Key Stage Lead, recommended by a job coach and seemed like a perfect fit - supportive, inclusive, and with a real focus on giving young people a genuine experience of the workplace.

How many students, in total, have volunteered with SATCoL through this partnership?

Around 40 students have volunteered since we started the partnership. It's been a great way to ensure that many of our learners have the opportunity to experience the world of work in a manageable and meaningful way.

How many students currently volunteer with us?
At the moment, we have 2 students attending weekly.

What is the purpose of the partnership?

The main goal is to offer our students real work experience in a safe and supportive environment. For many of them, this is their first step into a workplace setting, and it's about more than just learning tasks, it's about building confidence, independence, and a sense of responsibility. The consistency and routine also support development, both socially and emotionally.

How many hours do the students work for us each week during term time?

Students attend for one day each week, for 4 hours. They usually take part in a 12-week block, after which another group starts. This model helps give more students access to the experience while keeping things fresh and purposeful.

What tasks do the students do?

Their main role is applying address labels to envelopes, it is a great task for building attention to detail and

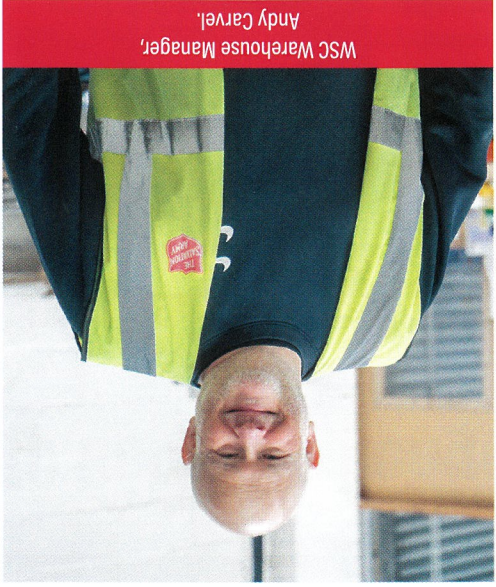
Over the past 5 years, SATCoL colleagues have raised a whopping £8,433.91 (and still counting) as part of Macmillan Coffee mornings held across SATCoL sites. Big well done and thank you to everyone who gets involved. Watch out for the blog on re:connect online with the final total for 2025!



Over £8,000 raised for Macmillan over 5 years!



The warehouse team support the students during their work experience, from left to right: Andy, Greg, Ian, Daniel and Nigel.



WSC Warehouse Manager, Andy Carvel.

difference. Just a huge thank you to the team at SATCoL.

The partnership has become an important part of our helping our young people take steps towards independence. we're trying to do. It's not just about ticking boxes, it's about The staff are patient, encouraging, and really get what

How does the work experience support their learning?

It gives students a genuine sense of purpose and helps them feel part of something bigger. They learn to manage time, follow routines, communicate with others, and take pride in doing a good job. Even small wins like remembering their uniform or greeting staff with confidence can be massive steps forward. Some students have even said it's the best part of their week.

How does the work experience benefit students?

Following instructions. Once that's done, they might move on to light packing, sorting, or helping out with whatever's needed on the day.

Are there any other aspects of working with us that the students enjoy?

Most of them enjoy doing the labels, as it gives them a clear routine and sense of achievement. Some like having a variety of tasks - it keeps things interesting. Others prefer sticking to one thing so they can really get into a rhythm. We always check in to see what works best for each student.

Absolutely, lots of little things make a big difference. They enjoy the independence of being in a workplace, the friendly staff, and having a lunch break with staff members. It's those little touches that make them feel like they belong and are trusted. That's what makes the experience special.

WSC Warehouse Manager, Andy Carvel.