

LIVE AND WORK PROGRAMME

The Live and Work Programme is an award winning partnership programme developed between Sandwell & West Birmingham NHS Trust and St Basils. The programme provides apprenticeship opportunities and affordable living accommodation to young people (16 - 24 Years) who are keen to develop their career prospects.

The programme was designed to break down walls and build bridges with young people of our local community to benefit from the additional support the package offers. This is a unique programme offering a safe affordable accommodation, access into professional development and support into a career for vulnerable young people.

The accommodation, home to 32 young people, comprised of 8 flats. Each flat has 4 bedrooms, with shared kitchen, dining and bathroom facilities. The onsite staffs offer a bespoke service to the young people living there from Monday to Friday as well as an additional on-call service should a young person need out of hours support.

The rent is £43 and it is inclusive of all bills.

Widening the talent pool of people employed within Sandwell & West Birmingham NHS Trust links to the 'Equality and Diversity' coupled with the Widening Participation agendas of the government.

Hence, Sandwell & West Birmingham NHS Trust in collaboration with St Basils developed an inclusive and accessible apprenticeship opportunities for those further away, most especially vulnerable young people.

On a practical level, young people under 25 years old are housed in the old nurses' quarters close to Sandwell General Hospital and work on site. If opportune to undertake the apprenticeship programme at City Hospital, apprentices can take advantage of the free shuttle bus to travel to work.

Also, they get free 7 Days food vouchers and are supported to get a permanent job at the end of the apprenticeship programme based on their professionalism throughout the duration of the programme. However, any prospective apprentices would need to meet the criteria of St Basils before they can be accepted to undertake the Live and Work Programme.

The learner eligibility criteria are as follows:

- 16 – 24 Years
- Do not currently have an NVQ in the area you wish to study
- You will not have completed an apprenticeship in the area you wish to study
- Maths and English (A - C or equivalent)
- Photographic Identification
- Right to work
- Must have attitude and desire to commit to the Apprenticeship Programme
- Has been a resident in the UK over 3 years unless learner is from British Overseas Territory countries such as British Virgin Islands and the learner has been in that country for three years prior to enrolling on the programme.

Please note the above list is not exhaustive and only includes some of the most common criteria that must be fulfilled by any prospective apprentices.

Below is the 3D description of the Apprentice House where our current apprentices stays:

<https://my.matterport.com/show/?m=rQA6yALMeyx>

We have had some successful stories and currently have apprentices within some departments in the Trust.

Young people can undertake diverse apprenticeship related jobs like Healthcare Assistant; Ward Clerk/Receptionist; Admin officer; Pharmacy Technician; Phlebotomist; Opportunities within the Estate department and Catering department etc.

Also, the team have been liaising with other organisations with the view to have diverse apprenticeship opportunities for the young people. For example, Construction, hospitality and many more.

St Basils Live & Work Programme

***St Basils** works with young people aged 16-24, who are keen to develop their potentials.

***St Basils** have services tailored to support young residents to build confidence and access further education, training and employment to help them break the cycle of exclusion and homelessness.

***St Basils** supports professional development and recruitment of Apprenticeships within our trust whilst offering accommodation in our apprenticeship house on site at Sandwell hospital.

Prince William is the ambassador and, with the support from the trust, we have supported the career ambitions of the young people.