

Employment is for Everyone



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**Rotherham SEND Employment Forum –
March 2023**

On Thursday the 30th of March 2023. Employment is for Everyone helped launch the Rotherham Council SEND Employment forum, that was hosted from the New York Stadium.

The launch was used to talk about how everyone working within Rotherham can support people with SEND into Employment and Supported internships.

We had 3 main aims we wanted people to leave with:

1. To know what the 3 year national programme looks like.
2. To know what needs to happen in Rotherham to make positive change.
3. For everyone to commit to telling people about the SEND forum, and linking people together to avoid duplication of work.



The event ran from 10am - 1pm and included an overview of the national internship programme from the NTDi, RMBC's plan of how the forums will work moving forward, an update on the local situation from the ROC, and what an internship is and isn't from DFN Project search.

In the second half of the afternoon we heard some very powerful success stories from interns of ROC, Landmarks and the RNN Group, followed by tabletop discussions, networking opportunities and a closing address, action planning and next steps.

The launch was really well attended with 48 people present. Attendees ranged from local authorities, supported employment providers, specialist schools/colleges, council leads, community groups and social movements such as ourselves.

The feedback was great and everyone agreed to attend the second forum (TBC). It was great to see so many people from different sectors agreeing to come together to try make change in the area.

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