

Yeovil College Preparation for Life and Work students commended at the Project SEARCH graduation in the Yeovil District Hospital on the 28 June

Project SEARCH is a collaborative project with Yeovil College, Yeovil District Hospital and Aspire (part of the Somerset County Council) who provide supported internships to students with additional needs over an academic year. Through working with the team in placements provided by Yeovil District Hospital interns learn work skills that they can transfer into employment opportunities within the local community.

Mat Piotrowski, 19, from Poland was awarded the Project SEARCH Student of the Year at the graduation. Mat impressed all staff with how quick he learned the job role and improved his English skills. This is also an achievement for Mat as he only moved to England 3 years ago.

Mat, said, 'I am very pleased to be given this award. The Logistics team have helped me to learn the job role. I learned a lot in the classroom for my qualifications. A job vacancy came up for a Logistics Assistant. I applied... I had an interview...and I am now a Logistics Assistant!'

Mat was offered employment as a Logistics Assistant at Yeovil District Hospital.

Mat is keen to further his education; alongside working at the Yeovil District Hospital he has chosen to return to college next year as a part time student, continuing with his maths, English and IT studies.

Richard Kearle, Logistics Manager at Yeovil District Hospital, said 'Without the Project SEARCH team's hard work we wouldn't be able to support and accommodate the interns which would mean the interns missing a great opportunity.'

Georgie Murray-Gourlay, 21, worked hard in the Project Search Study Programme this year, demonstrating a desire to learn at every opportunity.

During her time at the hospital she has successfully organised a coffee morning to promote Project SEARCH and has also taken part in hospital charity events; abseiling down the side of the hospital and running in the Yeovil half marathon.



Photograph shows

From left to right, Sophie Turner-Mcintyre, Georgie Murray-Gourlay, Declan Ward, Sorcha Handscomb, Mat Piotrowski, Heidi Garfield, Laura Cox and Rhys Powell