

# BEDFORDSHIRE POLICE INTERNSHIP SCHEMES



**BEDFORDSHIRE POLICE**  
Protecting People and Fighting Crime  
*Together*



# WHO WE ARE



Bedfordshire is an extremely diverse county. Bedfordshire Police serve large towns with busy shopping centres and vibrant night-time economies, along with rural areas dotted with farmland and villages, in addition to numerous tourist attractions and English Heritage sites. The county encompasses a huge transport network, linking London with the Midlands and Northern England and is home to London Luton, the country's fifth busiest airport.

Bedfordshire Police..

- Covers 477 square miles
- Serves a population of over 550,000
- Employs over 1,110 Police Officers
- 940 police staff and 87 PCSO's.



# WHAT WE OFFER

Bedfordshire is the first force in the country to offer paid internships to undergraduate students. Since 2014, we have run a 10-week summer intern programme, in which we invite up to 15 students to join us over the university summer break. Following its success, we launched our sandwich placement scheme in 2017 that allows 5 undergraduates into the force for up to a 10-month sandwich year placement.



# HOW THE SCHEMES WORK

The schemes give undergraduates an opportunity to work within Bedfordshire Police for up to 10 weeks or 10 months, depending on which internship is applied for. Students are able to fill in an application for both schemes if they wish. However, those applying for the summer internship must be available for the full duration, while the sandwich year is only open to those who are able to take a placement year out of their studies. During their internships, undergraduates will join their departments, immersing themselves in the day to day work of their team whilst working on their specialised work package.

- Interns will be allocated a line manager and their performance against the competency framework will be assessed
- Interns will join us across a number of departments in placements across the force. The programme is therefore open to all students, irrespective of degree subject
- Each intern will work within a different department across the force



# WHAT BEDFORDSHIRE OFFERS INTERNS



"Bedfordshire Police recognises the benefits that can be achieved by working with young people, who can bring new perspectives and skills to the force.

During their time with the force, all our interns take on a variety of different projects and we continue to implement previous interns' work across the force, allowing us to provide a more effective service to our diverse communities.

Over the past four years, our interns have completed placements with organisational and operational functions. There is so much potential at Universities around the UK- students who are passionate, committed and full of fresh ideas, who can make a real difference to the way we work."



Jon Boucher QPMM

Chief Constable  
Bedfordshire Police

## Examples of previous business areas

- Force Exec
- Mental Health
- Hate Crime
- Operational Planning
- Major Crime
- Cyber Crime
- Continuous Improvement
- Citizens in Policing
- Communications
- And many more...



# HOW THE INTERNS BENEFIT BEDFORDSHIRE



'From my 10 week internship with Bedfordshire police... I have seen different aspects of policing, from the community PCSOs patrols, to SOCO, to response Officers on 999 calls and I loved being a small part of the Bedfordshire Police family.'

**Emily Robinson: Community Policing Intern**

'I chose to have an intern as I think we are a varied department that covers IOM, youth offending and the management of violent and registered sex offenders. I think [we] can give an intern a really interesting insight into what Police work is about.'

**Inspector Jackie Holmes: Integrated Offender Management**



'My experiences have provided me with a holistic learning approach and I have discovered much more about Bedfordshire Police...my experiences throughout the internship have been extremely beneficial and I hope the work I have produced is genuinely useful'

**Jacob Coggin: Operational Planning Unit Intern**

The internship programme provides me with some resilience, making it possible to implement ideas and carry out valuable research. Without the internship programme existing, there is no way I would have achieved so much in ten weeks.'

**Sergeant James Hart: London Luton Airport Policing**



# WHO WE ARE LOOKING FOR

Our experience of internships is that they bring a valuable source of enthusiasm and skill to Bedfordshire Police and the fresh perspective that students supply allows us to challenge existing ways of working. We are determined that this relationship should grow into a partnership, with Bedfordshire Police assisting interns in their personal development so that they can leave the organisation with tangible evidence of their achievements. The intern scheme allows young people, with a clear idea of their strengths and areas for further development, to gain paid experience in a working environment.

"We are looking for enthusiastic individuals working towards a university employability award or similar qualification. We are working to appoint innovative interns, capable of working within a team environment in a disciplined organisation."

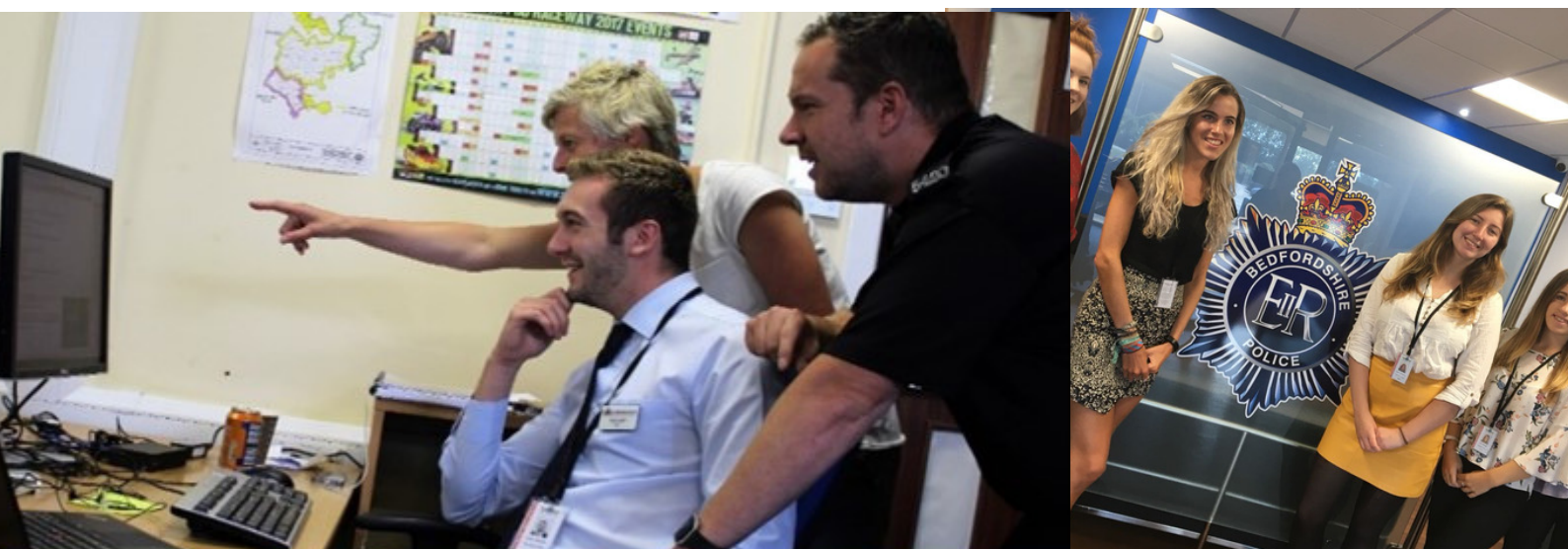


*"We know that valuing the difference between people and the benefits that can be gained from those differences is what is going to take us from being good at what we do to being great. We are actively seeking to identify the widest pool of candidates from the widest mix of cultures, approaches and thinking."*

## WHAT TO EXPECT

Our interns are given work packages by their departments, which cover a wide range of topics, reflecting the diversity and breadth of our organisation. Previous projects have included:

- Designing a training course for low level stalking and harassment offenders
- Helping the community team prepare and collate speeding data to be presented at a priority meeting
- Assisting with preparing intelligence for a warrant on a property
- Creating a social media campaign on tackling hate crime and preparing literature for hate crime victims
- Producing a campaign to reduce the number of vulnerable victims of fraud





# HOW TO APPLY

In order to apply for the Bedfordshire Police internship scheme you will be asked to complete a 500 word summary of why you would want to work with us at Bedfordshire Police, what skills you can bring and how you would like to develop.

Following on from this, if shortlisted you will be invited to an assessment centre which will consist of a variety of group activities and one face to face interview at the end of the day.

You will then be informed as to whether or not you were successful in being placed in your most desired business area.

To apply visit; **[www.bedfordshire.police.uk/interns](http://www.bedfordshire.police.uk/interns)**



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