**SEND Supported Internship employment forum - 6th March 2024**

Purpose of the forum:

* To develop a strategic approach and action plan aimed at improving employment outcomes for young people with SEND
* Increase the number of good quality Supported Internship work placements throughout the LA
* Increase awareness with Employers including SME’s to the benefits of providing a placement for a Support Internship
* Ensure there is an inclusive pipeline of talent including those with SEND for local opportunities
* To bring together all the local partners who can develop and deliver pathways to sustainable employment and promote collaborative working which includes the offer of work experience and work related experiences at key transition stages
* Support Employers with a range of resources to remove any barriers there are to offering a supported internship including support from other agencies such as Disability Network, Job Coaches and DWP
* The SI Action plan is in line with the 2022-2027 Luton Borough Council short term recovery plan
* To create routes that will support more young people with SEND into paid employment
* To identify, develop (where there are clear gaps) and promote training and resources that schools, colleges and employers can access to make meaningful paid work a realistic outcome for all children and young people with SEND
* To provide partnership strategic support and challenge to the implementation of the internships work grant funding and action plan.

The forum will include:

* Colleges
* Special Schools
* Employers already engaged with the Programme
* Potential Employers
* Disability Network
* Luton Rising
* LBC  14-19 Participation and Engagement Officer
* Post 16 transition Team