



**Manchester  
Metropolitan  
University**

# Bridging the Gap



## BRIDGING THE GAP

**Through the Bridging the Gap (BtG) programme, Manchester Metropolitan offers work experience to Special Educational Needs students from Manchester and Trafford borough.**

Each term, students carry out a work placement within a University department which helps them develop their employability skills and gain on-the-job experience.

Currently, the BtG students are placed in the Library, Mail Service, Print Services, Catering and Facilities Management teams across campus.





# NEW OPPORTUNITIES

If you and your department would like to help raise young people's aspirations by providing a new placement, please contact Lydia Lancaster, Equality and Diversity Coordinator, or alternatively, Mel Massiera or Charlotte Meakin, BtG job coaches.

- **Lydia Lancaster**  
Equality and Diversity Coordinator  
Lydia.Lancaster@mmu.ac.uk | x6419
- **Mel Massiera**  
Bridging the Gap Job Coach  
M.Massiera@mmu.ac.uk | x2879
- **Charlotte Meakin**  
Bridging the Gap Job Coach  
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## THE BENEFITS

**The scheme presents benefits for both the students on placement and Manchester Metropolitan staff:**

- creating opportunities for Manchester Metropolitan staff to develop mentoring skills and leadership qualities.
- supporting inclusion in the community.
- giving access to a pool of hidden talent – people who offer enthusiasm and a fresh perspective.
- promoting equality and diversity in the workplace and raising disability awareness.

**The students can:**

- share their energy and knowledge, increasing their aspirations.
- experience being in a working environment and learning about the demands and etiquette involved in day-to-day work.
- learn new skills and update existing skills to meet the needs of a fast-moving modern workplace.
- build overall confidence, motivation and well-being.
- gain a better understanding of the job market.

**Each student is supervised and supported by a job coach. Job coaches are on site daily and will offer practical support to students whilst on the job, and liaise with Manchester Metropolitan and school staff.**

