



MOLLIE'S

Max's Journey to Employment

Max's development is a testament to the power of inclusive employment opportunities. Max was introduced to us through a supported internship facilitated by Sixteen Cooperative, a Bristol-based enterprise dedicated to creating meaningful outcomes for individuals with learning disabilities and/or autism. With a warm and approachable personality, Max expressed a strong desire to be part of a welcoming environment. His journey began with an internship at Mollie's Bristol, where he was placed on the host desk, welcoming diners into our establishment and seating them.



The Internship: Max's internship at Mollie's was set for a 12-week period, during which he would be responsible for greeting guests, making them feel welcome, and ensuring they had a positive start to their dining experience. Right from the outset, it was clear that Max's natural warmth and enthusiasm were a perfect match for this role. He quickly integrated into the team, and within days, he was recognised not only for his professionalism but for his genuine joy in connecting with customers and colleagues alike.

Throughout the 12 weeks, Max demonstrated growth in confidence, communication, and a strong sense of belonging. His presence at the host desk became a staple of our lunch service, providing a warm and welcoming atmosphere for both regular and new customers. Max's ability to create a positive first impression was invaluable to the diner, particularly during our busier periods when customer interaction is crucial to ensuring a smooth and enjoyable experience.

Transition to Employment: At the end of his placement, Max had become such an integral part of our team that the thought of his internship ending without a continuation was unimaginable. His dedication, growth, and positive impact on both customers and staff led us to offer him a permanent role. We carved out a position specifically for Max, focusing on our busy weekend shifts, when his skills and enthusiasm would be most valuable. One week after completing his internship, Max has officially joined us as a paid employee, reinforcing our commitment to inclusive employment. His role as the host on weekends allows him to continue welcoming diners with the same energy and warmth that had made him a beloved member of the team during his internship.

Conclusion: Max's journey from intern to valued employee demonstrates how supported internships can lead to sustainable employment for individuals with learning disabilities and/or autism. His success at Mollie's Bristol highlights the importance of providing opportunities for growth, ensuring that every individual's strengths and passions are acknowledged and nurtured. Max's journey is one of personal and professional growth, and his contributions have made a lasting impact on our team and customer experience.



“ Quote from Charlie, Diner Manager, Mollie's Bristol

During Max's internship he has consistently pushed himself to always learn more. He has always delivered great service, interacting well with our guests and striving to deliver a great experience. He has never shied away from any task and always asks questions to ensure that he can support in the right way during service. I am excited to see how he develops over time as a permanent member of our diner team.

”

