

# Learning about the Library

*Some information on where you get your information...*

Hi, my name is George and this is a blog post recording my experience as a work experience student in the Pilgrim hospital library (Yes, the hospital has a library. And no, I didn't know it existed either). My initial reaction on getting a work experience placement at the library was of joy. Then it was of dread. What would I be doing? Would I have to just catalogue research papers into shelves? Clean some dusty old books? Walk around searching for lost books? (Actually I did do that last one but it wasn't too bad). I waited with apprehension as the day of my work experience came looming by.

So I walked into the Hospital Education Centre after waking up at 7 in the morning, which was quite a change in routine after a week of half term holidays and my body just being used to sleeping in. I was nervous, but also excited about what I would do during my three days. I walked in, rang the doorbell and my placement coordinator, Carrie, came and opened the door. My work experience has officially started.

Day 1. Carrie then explained to me what she does and then introduced me to Joel. Then we started with our librarian duties, which were not as dull as I imagined them to be. We started with signing up people for bulletins and posting books to be sent off to other places (It's more interesting than I make it out to be) and ended up with moving a desk and trying all sorts of keys to unlock a particularly stubborn lock (Definitely as interesting as I make it out to be, I felt like a detective). Joel then walked me through the more administrative side of things, such how the cataloguing services work. And compared to some of my other mates in the hospital who barely got a break, I got a hour for lunch. As I walked home after my first day, I thought that maybe my time here wouldn't be as bad as I thought it would be.

Day 2. I was considerably more excited and met Carrie who introduced me to Laila as the "Queen of Canva" the previous day, so I was looking forward to the meeting as designing is one of my favourite activities as well. I had another interesting day planned out for me, where I did my previous duties such as tidying up the library alongside Carrie. Then I did some worksheets that taught me how to navigate through the BMJ Best Practice website, looked over bulletins for any errors, created a poster and then finished it by arranging one of the shelves for promoting

Diabetes Week 2026. Another fun day, and a bit sad as my time as a Librarian was rapidly approaching its end.

Day 3. I started with a grey and moody sky, with the raindrops shooting at my face, reflected my feelings about today being the last day on placement. I started with my previous duties such as tidying up the library and then I went hunting for some lost books around the library. I then met Stephen, who explained his role to me and showed me all the ways I can choose a career that would fit me, mainly advising me to do what I am actually passionate about.

As I am sat here writing this blog, I remember all the countless other things I have done and have seen in my time here at the Pilgrim Hospital Library. But if I were to mention all of those, I might as well forget about writing a blog and write an article. And remember, don't forget to sign up as a library member! After all, knowledge is the key to everything.