

Case Study: Internship (*Charity Insights*)

Anna Lawson, Second Year Chemical Engineering Student

Which company did you undertake work experience with?

My company was Long Well Walk, a Sheffield based charity which delivers water and sanitation projects to communities in sub-Saharan Africa.

How did you go about finding the internship?

I have had previous involvement with the charity's events and so was already acquainted with Liam Garcia, the director of the charity – there was no formal application/interview process per se.



What was your role/project and what did it involve?

My project within the team was primarily self-run, though managed by Liam as well as myself. I directed and managed the majority of the School Outreach programme whilst there – this involved creating a programme which will be used in schools and colleges designed to educate and raise awareness of the health and sanitation issues in sub-Saharan Africa as well as increasing general knowledge of SS Africa. This involved planning a range of programmes, varying from day workshops to week long projects to a year-long scheme, creating engaging and educating activities and lesson plans which fit teaching techniques – lesson objectives, differentiation and evaluation – and the use of IT to create a clear and consolidating programme pack to be distributed to teachers and schools. This was designed for both primary and secondary schools, as well as an entrepreneurial challenge for college students which connected students with the idea of enterprise, selling products created in Africa. I also created the pitch for the scheme to be delivered to the schools and governors.

“My advice would be to plan ahead and create a summer that has a good balance of fun and work, so you will look back on feeling like you made the most of your time.”

- Anna Lawson

What was the most valuable thing about your work experience?

The most valuable aspect of my internship was the knowledge and experience working within the charity, learning the processes involved with creating the scheme. I had the opportunity to work with some of the most motivated, creative and inspiring people that I have ever met, who have created charities working around the world from one crazy idea or moment of inspiration. For me, that experience is invaluable and has inspired me even more to follow in their footsteps and I hope that some of the friendships that I formed during my internship will be long lasting.

Do you have any tips for future Imperial students looking to make the most of their summer?

My advice would be to plan ahead (nobody wants to have a boring summer!) and create a summer that has a good balance of fun, and work, so you will look back on feeling like you made the most of your time. For me this meant a summer with an internship, travelling and backpacking, a cycling challenge and some down time with my family.

