



Student: Brennan Hackett
University of Surrey
Placement: IPROS Cube
Role: Business Analyst

“The opportunity to independently execute my own project has built my confidence”

Describe a typical day:

IPROS Cube has their office located in the Surrey Technology Park, inside an incubator. This open office contains other small software start-ups with non-competing objectives. My typical hours were from 9:00 to 17:00, however these times were flexible and I had the option to complete my assignments from home. As my supervisor was frequently attending meetings and travelling, most of my work was done independently. I would begin my day by either emailing or discussing an objective with my supervisor and work towards that objective independently for the rest of the day. Before I would finish for the evening I would then email or discuss my progress with my supervisor.

Why did you decide to do a placement?

In order to keep my options open, I wanted to work over the summer in an area that applied what I had studied in my degree. I also wanted to have some work experience before I applied for year in industry opportunities.

Would you recommend doing a placement?

Definitely, it was a great way to reaffirm my studies over the long summer break as well as gave me some financial freedom once term started again.

How do you think doing a placement has benefited you for the future?

This placement has widened my skills base and has demonstrated my credibility. The opportunity to independently execute my own project has built my confidence and gives me a topic of discussion when attending interviews and completing applications. I also can list this as employment rather than ‘work experience’ as I was paid for my time.

What are your next steps?

I hope to continue working with databases or learn another programming language this summer. This has already opened many doors for internships and insight weeks for information technology positions so I look to pursue those fields in future.

Employer perspective: