



**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:**