Health industry placement resources

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Introduction

This short guide introduces the Health industry placement resources, explains why they were developed and gives an overview of how each resource can be used. The resources are designed to support colleges, schools, employers and students to develop and deliver meaningful, high-quality health T Level industry placements.

The collection includes resources developed through the Health industry placement action group, alongside other materials to support different aspects of industry placement delivery. This guide provides an overview of the resources and their intended audiences, helping you identify which materials are most relevant to your role or context.

About the Health action group

The Health action group brought together T Level providers, employers and sector colleagues to explore how health industry placements can be made more meaningful, manageable and sustainable across a wider range of health and care settings.

The group focused on the practical realities of placements in care, community, primary care, voluntary sector and other non-acute settings. This included how employers can offer safe and worthwhile experiences within their capacity, how students are prepared for professional and sometimes sensitive environments, and how colleges and schools can use flexible placement models that reflect real service priorities.

The resources hosted on this page that were produced from the industry placement action group are:

- Students: getting ready for your health industry placement
- Could a health industry placement work in your organisation
- T Level in Health – small team projects: a bank of project briefs

Action group participants

Employer engagement and/or curriculum staff from the following colleges and schools participated:

Cirencester College
City of Bristol College
New College Swindon
Taunton College
SGS College

What the action group found

Across the action group discussions, several key messages emerged:

- Meaningful health placements can take place beyond hospitals and acute NHS settings, including in care, community, primary care, pharmacy, voluntary sector and wellbeing organisations.
- Strong placements need clear, agreed activities; appropriate supervision and escalation arrangements; and shared expectations around safety, safeguarding, confidentiality, consent and professional boundaries.
- Student readiness is critical. Students need to be reliable, respectful, willing to learn, able to accept feedback and confident enough to pause and check when a task is unclear or outside their agreed role.
- Flexible models, including work tasters, block or day-release placements, shared placements and small team projects, can support meaningful contribution when they are built around real employer priorities and include clear review and feedback.

What we produced

In response to these findings, three practical resources have been developed.

They do not represent an exhaustive set of possible support materials for health industry placements, but reflect the areas the action group identified as most useful and achievable for immediate development.

Resource	What this resource is	Primary audience	How it can be used
Students: getting ready for your health industry placement	A student-facing preparation and reflection resource explaining what professional behaviour, safety, boundaries and confidentiality look like in health and care settings. It includes practical checks, contact and induction prompts, a readiness check, a student and parent or carer declaration, and reflection questions for use during and after the placement.	Students preparing for a health industry placement or small team project, with supporting use by parents or carers and college or school staff.	Use it in placement preparation sessions, tutorials, one-to-one readiness conversations and induction. Students can complete the practical checks and declaration before starting, then use the reflection prompts during and after their placement. It supports, but does not replace, employer induction, safeguarding or occupational health guidance.
Could a health industry placement work in your organisation?	A practical employer-facing guide for care, community, primary care, voluntary sector and other non-acute health settings. It explains where placements can happen, what students may be ready to do, how to agree safe activities, the placement models available, and the respective roles of the employer and college or school.	Health, care and wellbeing employers considering or planning an industry placement, especially organisations new to T Levels or outside acute hospital settings.	Use it during early employer engagement, before an organisation commits to hosting, or when shaping a placement plan. Its activity guidance, placement-model examples and responses to common concerns can help employers and providers agree a safe, realistic and manageable starting point.

Resource	What this resource is	Primary audience	How it can be used
T Level in Health - small team projects: a bank of project briefs	A practical bank of adaptable small team project briefs based on real priorities in health and care services. It explains how projects fit within a high-quality placement model, sets out review and evidence expectations, offers 12 example briefs across different settings, and includes a blank co-design template.	Employer engagement, placement and curriculum teams in colleges and schools, working with employers in non-acute health and care settings.	Use it to start and structure employer conversations where direct placement capacity is limited, an employer is new to T Levels, or students need a supported route into workplace activity. Select and adapt a relevant brief, or use the blank template to agree the challenge, learning goals, delivery approach, employer input, individual contributions, review points and useful outputs.