BLACKPOOL ZOO

PLACEMENT OPPORTUNITIES GUIDE

2023

Placement Policy & Guidelines

- At Blackpool Zoo, we offer 6 Placement opportunities for students details of which can be found on our website and in this guide
- If you are applying for our “Year in Industry” you **MUST** be completing a sandwich year during a higher education course
- If you are applying for the animal team support student, wildlife learning student or visual design student placement you must be completing a relevant animal course
- If you are applying for the research student placement you must be completing a higher education related course
- Please note at present you **MUST BE OVER THE AGE OF 18** to apply for a placement.
- **ALL OF OUR PLACEMENT OPPORTUNITIES ARE VOLUNTARY AND THERE ARE LIMITED POSITIONS AVAILABLE THROUGHOUT THE YEAR.**
- All placement opportunities (apart from the 1 year in industry- sandwich year students) will incur an admin fee of **£15.00** and require a **£10.00** deposit for a vest.
- Blackpool Zoo does not provide accommodation for placement students
- Due to potential seasonal changes in public transport to the zoo, it is advised that students ensure they are able to travel to the zoo including weekend and bank holiday dates
- Our Year in Industry applications open in December, all other placements applications will be available in February, please make sure to continue to check our website for updates about how to apply.

Sandwich Year Students
A YEAR IN INDUSTRY (FULL-TIME)

This placement is for students undertaking a higher education degree who want to take a 12-month placement within their academic study as part of a sandwich year.

The placement gives a novel opportunity for students to rotate across the animal and education departments within the zoo, the program includes supporting departments such as:

- Elephant department
- Mammal department
- Bird and Events department
- Education & Research
- Enrichment
- Animal Health

The placement also provides educational workshops and time allocated for a personal research project as well as opportunities for outreach such as conferences.

Upon successful completion of the 12-month placement students will receive a written reference, a certificate, a portfolio and their achievements and regular reviews which will be sent to your university.

Duration	12 months (September-September)
Rota	Full-time (5 days out of 7, including weekends and bank holidays)
Hours	8am – 4pm

Duration	2 months (July-August)
Rota	Full-time (5 days out of 7, including weekends and bank holidays)
Hours	8am – 4pm

ANIMAL TEAM SUPPORT STUDENT (FULL-TIME)

This placement is aimed at students completing a relevant animal course. The placement will provide students the opportunity to support a full-time experienced keeper with tasks such as:

- Cleaning animal enclosures
- Food preparation
- Enclosure maintenance
- Animal support tasks such as helping with food deliveries
- Browse collection

Please note students WILL NOT assist on the elephant department or in any category 1 animal building.

Students WILL NOT assist on education or the research department.

Upon successful completion of the placement students will receive a feedback form and a certificate

ANIMAL TEAM SUPPORT STUDENT (PART-TIME)

This placement is aimed at students completing a relevant animal course.

The placement will provide students the opportunity to support a full-time experienced keeper with tasks such as:

- Cleaning animal enclosures
- Food preparation
- Enclosure maintenance
- Animal support tasks such as helping with food deliveries
- Browse collection

Please note students WILL NOT assist on the elephant department or in any category 1 animal building.

Students WILL NOT assist on education or the research department.

Upon successful completion of the placement students will receive written feedback and a certificate of completion.

Duration	4 months (September-December)
Rota	Part-time (Saturdays and Sundays)
Hours	8am – 4pm

Duration	3 months (June-August)
Rota	Full-time (5 days out of 7, including weekends and bank holidays)
Hours	9am – 4pm

WILDLIFE LEARNING STUDENT (FULL-TIME)

This placement is aimed at students completing a relevant animal or education course.

The placement will provide students the opportunity to support a full-time education officer with tasks such as:

- Assisting with learning programmes
- Observing education sessions
- Observing talks
- Helping to monitor walk-through exhibits
- Talking with members of the public

Please note students WILL NOT assist on any animal department or with any animals

Upon successful completion of the placement students will receive written feedback and a certificate of completion.

RESEARCH STUDENT (PART-TIME)

This placement is aimed at students completing a relevant higher education animal course.

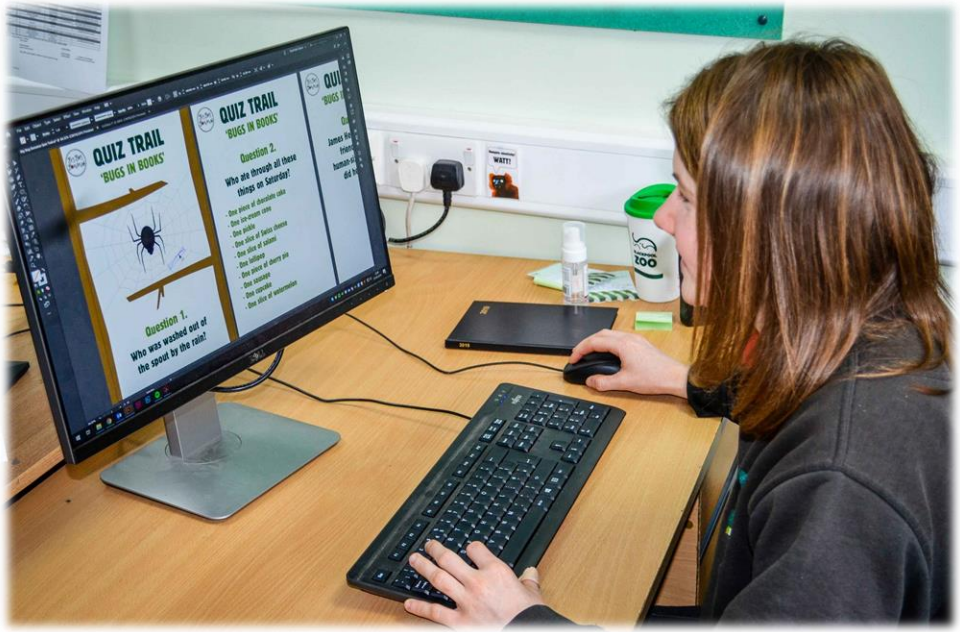
The placement will provide students the opportunity to assist alongside the research department with tasks such as:

- Data collection for the zoo's internal research projects (no access to off-show areas)
- Data inputting for internal research
- Opportunity to collect their own research pending approval from the research department

Please note students WILL NOT be in contact with any animals or support the animal department directly.

Upon successful completion of the placement students will receive written feedback and a certificate of completion.

Duration	3 months (June-August)
Rota	Full-time (5 days out of 7, including weekends and bank holidays)
Hours	9am – 4pm



Duration	2 months
Rota	Part-time (2 days out of 7, weekdays only)
Hours	9am – 4pm

VISUAL DESIGN STUDENT (PART-TIME)

This placement is aimed at students completing a relevant marketing, graphic design, or photography course

The placement will provide students the opportunity to support our marketing and visual design team with tasks such as:

- Collecting content for social media
- Assisting on the zoo's informal education including signage and advertisements
- Taking photographs across the zoo to be used in future content
- Research for interpretation across the zoo

Please note students WILL NOT be in contact with any animals or support the animal department directly.

Upon successful completion of the placement students will receive written feedback and a certificate of completion.

Thank you! We look forward to hearing from you soon

If you have any further questions or queries, please do not hesitate to contact the zoo at:
research@blackpoolzoo.org.uk

Placement Opportunities Guide 2023 created by Blackpool Zoo Research Department

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BLACKPOOL ZOO RESEARCH DEPARTMENT