

# Case study: Tandridge District Council Open Doors event



## A meaningful experience of the workplace for young people with SEND

A need was identified to increase opportunities for young people with SEND to have a meaningful experience of the workplace. Tandridge District Council were keen to set an example to other local businesses in terms of opening their doors to SEND students.

Students experienced a welcome from a Chair of the Council and tour of the building, a warm up quiz, a presentation about what the Council do and group activities: recycling challenge, phone call role play scenario and ballot voting experience. A truly exciting day!

**Elaine Jackson, Acting Chief Executive, at Tandridge District Council:**

*"We were delighted to host this event and to give the students an insight into the work of the Council, the first of its kind.*

*We were also impressed by the range and quality of questions the students asked and took the opportunity to canvass their views on some of the matters they feel it is important for the Council to deal with."*

## Students gained insight and knowledge as a result

- 25 students with a diverse range of accessibility challenges from five different SEND schools and colleges were able to take part
- Students' knowledge about how the Council operates and the different job roles at the Council increased
- One student has been offered a work experience placement as a result of this Open Doors visit



*"I learnt a lot. The visit made me very happy"*

*"I enjoyed talking about different subjects and working as a team"*

*"I would be happy to come back next year in 2021 and look around again because it's interesting"*

*"I liked seeing the big place where people work"*