

INCLUSIVE EMPLOYMENT SCHEME

Outstanding Contribution to
Equality, Diversity and Inclusion

“.. a great example of partnership working between a government body, the local disability sector and a major employer, who in this instance, just happen to be one of our most prestigious education establishments .. the staff at Queen’s, through the HR team and the respective schools throughout the University, have provided the opportunities and in-work support that will really enhance the employment prospects of many disabled people – and for that, we are all very grateful.”

Terry Park
Head of Disability Employment Services,
Department for Communities



Conor Curran Head of Diversity and Inclusion Queen's University Belfast pictured at the 2023 launch with partnerships organisations



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**Awards
2024**

What our partnership organisations say about Queen's Inclusive Employment Scheme:

"The level of support was well structured and flexible; help was available if needed".

Sonia Erwin
Support Worker Action Mental Health

"The application process easy and straightforward, accompany to interview. The departments have really thought about the work that tie in with skills and interest. Good safe place. Helped build her confidence. I have seen her confidence boost. David has been really good at pushing her outside her comfort zone".

Support Worker Julie Stuart
Disability Action

"Thank you to Queen's for offering a variety of places this year to our service users. We were very thankful to be selected for a number of these. I have been in regular touch with my placement and he has been giving me very positive feedback".

Leanne
Employment Officer Cedar
Foundation SkillSET Belfast

"The pen picture allowed participants to sell themselves. Flexibility, good communication, and support from Queen's".

Leeann Green
Cedar Foundation



Edyth Dunlop Northern Ireland Union of Supported Employment
pictured at the 2023 launch with partnerships organisations

[Click to hear more about Inclusive Employment Scheme at Queen's](#)



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What our 2023 placements say about Queen's Inclusive Employment Scheme:



Daniela
2023 Placement
School of Social
Sciences, Education
and Social work



Action Mental Health changes the lives of those living with mental ill health and promotes resilience and wellbeing throughout our community.

What do you enjoy most about working for Queen's?

I like to learn new things and help people generally. I had a nice experience at Queen's University, where my health issues were understood and taken into consideration.

The most IMPORTANT thing about my placement was that people were KIND to me and helped me when I needed it.

Commenting on the Inclusive Employment Scheme, Sonia Erwin, Employment Officer, Action Mental Health - Daniela's Support Worker - said:

The role has been busy and varied and has given Daniela a whole new set of competencies to add to her CV, including communication and IT skills.

Daniela enjoyed getting to know her colleagues and the students who came in to the school and her confidence has really grown during the last six months.

Patricia was a supportive and inspiring placement supervisor, and I would like to thank her for providing such a worthwhile opportunity for Daniela.

We look forward taking part in the scheme again in the future.



Richard
2023 Placement
Queen's Sport



The Orchardville Society supports adults with a learning disability or autism to find the right job and keep it, using the model of Supported Employment.

What do you enjoy most about working for Queen's Sport?

What I enjoy most about working at Queen's is that no two days are the same. I have been given the opportunity to learn new skills and improve in areas such as excel spreadsheets, emails, written and interpersonal communications. I also enjoy being part of a team meeting new people and creating friendships.

What do you hope to get out of the placement?

My goal is to return to and gain employment on a more permanent basis. My time at Queen's Sport has undoubtedly helped me along this course.

Commenting on Queen's University Belfast's Inclusive Employment Scheme, Alan Home from the Orchardville Society, Richard's Support Worker, said:

It has been a pleasure working with, Queen's Sport, Student and Campus Life and the team at Queen's PEC— they have been a fantastic support to Richard throughout his voluntary work placement. Richard has greatly developed his skills and experience the last year and it has been great to see his confidence develop, both personally and professionally. Richard always has a variety of tasks to complete in work and he has enjoyed taking on new challenges, showing determination and a positive attitude throughout. Thanks, Queen's, for this opportunity and support. Well done to Richard for all your hard work!

For more information, visit [Inclusive Employment Scheme](#)



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Inclusive Employment Scheme Launch 2023



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