



2020-21 Impact Report



**Team
Domenica**

Removing barriers to work for people with learning disabilities

www.teamdomenica.com

Registered charity No: 1165494



Team Domenica Impact 2020-21



Impact 2020-21

COVID-19 has had a huge impact on us all. Across the UK, the learning disability community has been disproportionately and significantly affected. We are proud to say that we have been there for our young candidates and their families through it all.

In June 2021, we approached our community to find out how they felt after a very challenging year. We asked candidates, their parents and carers to complete a survey and tell us how they felt. Their feedback, and other data we collect, shows that Team Domenica is still making a tremendous impact, despite all obstacles.

This is what they had to say...



76%

of candidates have found employment through our Supported Internship Programme

"To improve our employment rate after the disruption of the last year, is nothing short of remarkable. This success is testament to our dedicated team, our committed partnered employers, and of course, the hard work of the candidates themselves."

Rosa Monckton MBE, Founder and Chair of Team of Team Domenica

95%

of candidates are happier



"Your online classes were wonderful but nothing beats being back at Team Domenica! Sophie seems happy - it's the transformation we were hoping for!"

Claire, mother of Team Domenica candidate Sophie



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98%

of candidates
have **more friends**

"Time at work is great and perfect and I am always very excited to come to work. I have made lots of new friends and I'm learning lots of new things."

Khalil, Team Domenica candidate

100%

of parents and carers
feel **supported by us**



"The staff support and services that Team Dominica has provided during the pandemic have been amazing. Both my daughter and I have really benefitted from the effort TD has given to make everyone feel not isolated."

Anonymous Team Domenica parent



98%

of candidates are
more confident

"Alex is happier and certainly more self-confident than she has ever been."

Johnathan, father of Team Domenica candidate Alex



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93%

of candidates feel
less isolated

"It has been an interesting year with all the stuff we have had to deal with... lockdowns, new 2m measurements... Team Domenica has helped us stay connected and to understand this new world order."

Charles, Team Domenica candidate

95%

of candidates
feel good about **their future**



"Team Domenica is helping to forge a more positive future not only for their candidates, but for others with learning disabilities. I for one am very grateful for all their hard work."

Jan, Team Domenica parent



100%

of candidates **passed**
their **employment qualifications**

"We are so pleased that our candidates have all passed their employment qualifications in what has been an extremely turbulent year. It demonstrates their commitment, resilience and progress."

Programme and Strategy Director, Lisa Campbell-Squires



Team Domenica Impact 2020-21



90%

of our partnered employers will work with us this year

"We've had a fantastic response from our employer partners. 45 out of 50 are either working with us or have expressed an interest in working with us again in 2021-22. After such a hard year for businesses, we couldn't ask for more."

Employer Partnership Manager (Team Domenica), Emily Hitchcock

Our delivery

Despite COVID-19 Team Domenica has still achieved:

- **All candidates** on Supported Internships before COVID-19 are now back in external work placements.
- Just **2** candidates have lost employment.
- **11/11** furloughed candidates are now back at work with our support.
- We have had over **90% attendance**.
- **0** drop-outs.
- Each candidate has received **120 hours** of virtual sessions, **170 hours** of classroom time, **170 hours** of enrichment and wellbeing support and **170 hours** of café training.*

*Normally 240 hours each



It is heartening to see this feedback from our candidates and our community. It clearly demonstrates Team Domenica's adaptability, ingenuity and commitment to giving young people with learning disabilities the best start in life.

These results are very much the leading edge of our impact. There are so many individual stories in our community where Team Domenica is playing a central part in change; from our candidates and their families, to the changing landscape of employment and policy in our area.

It has been a very challenging year for all, but Team Domenica is poised to increase our impact and reach in 2021-22.



Candidate stories

Before Josh joined Team Domenica, his parents were convinced that his autism, communication difficulties and anxiety would mean that his dream to work in the catering industry would never become a reality. He completed educational modules, which helped him to develop his communication skills, along with practical skills such as money-handling. Our enrichment activities allowed him to gain confidence, develop social skills, build strong friendships – and even meet his girlfriend, Frankie! But it was putting his new skills into practise in Café Domenica that his passion for catering really shone through.

Team Domenica was able to match Josh to a supported internship with Jurys Inn. Josh's Job Coach worked with him to manage his anxiety using his love of rules and his role was adjusted to focus on tasks where his autism helped him to excel. We provided training for the Jury's Inn team. Less than a year from when he first stepped foot in the hotel, Josh was offered paid employment at Jurys Inn! Then just a few months later, Josh was nominated for the Most Outstanding Person Award at the Brighton and Hove Hotelier Awards – and he won!

"It's tough to be alone. Team Domenica and Jurys Inn are always there for me. They give me the confidence to never give up and keep trying."



"When I won the award it made me jump up and scream with happiness."

Team Domenica candidate Josh

Every young person that comes to Team Domenica has a story to tell, just like Josh. To see video stories, click the pictures below.





**Team
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**Stand tall
and
dream big.**



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