

WORK WITH US

Champion workplace inclusion with Team Domenica



**Open Minds
Open Doors**



**TEAM
DOMENICA**

Our story

Team Domenica is a charity and Specialist Further Education College supporting people with learning disabilities and autism – our candidates – to access meaningful employment and thrive. We do this through tailored training programmes, and by partnering with businesses to provide accessible workplace opportunities.

There are 137,000 adults with learning disabilities in England, but just 4.7% are in paid employment (DHSC, 2025). Far too many are missing out on the basic right to aspire to a career, along with the wider social networks, improved health, and increased independence a job provides.

Team Domenica is here to change this. We're doing it already. Our pioneering model helps candidates find and retain paid roles, giving them a sense of direction, purpose and belonging. Our programmes open doors to the world of work – and so much more.

76%

of our young people have attained paid work through our Supported Internship Programme

(Our Impact, 2025)



Being part of Team Domenica means new opportunities. Without their support, I would have struggled to get paid work. But now I'm part of the Maldron team and it's great. I'm really proud to have a job, I love getting paid!

Olly, Team Domenica candidate in paid work at Maldron Hotel Brighton



Our approach

Based in Brighton & Hove, and working across Sussex, Team Domenica supports young people to flourish in the workplace, and beyond. Our programmes seamlessly reinforce skills in different contexts, ensuring that all learning builds towards lasting employment and personal fulfilment.

In the classroom & community

Candidates complete Functional Skills qualifications in the classroom, developing strong foundations for their workplace knowledge. They also engage with RSHE and a variety of community-based activities to support their wider personal development and learning.

In-house practical training

Our training cafés and flagship pub (The North Star) bring classroom learning to life. Our candidates have the space, time and support to build their skills in a professional and varied environment. These enterprises showcase our young people's abilities to wider society.

Partnerships & placements

With the help of a job coach or mentor, candidates complete external placements with a partnered employer. These mutually beneficial opportunities are key to our young people's success and help create a more vibrant and inclusive workplace for all.



Our approach to Social Value is all around the additional benefits we can bring to the wider community. We work with people to unlock their potential and Team Domenica is exactly the kind of organisation we love to engage with and support – the way they help people to thrive in the workplace and beyond!

Jennie Ellis, Social Value Manager at Wates



Be a part of it

At Team Domenica, we believe that people with learning disabilities have the right to work, to thrive, and to feel included as valued members of the workplace. Partnered employers can support this vision by offering one, or more, of the following:



1 WORK EXPERIENCE

Work experience offers an introduction to Team Domenica and our young people. Accompanied by a mentor, candidates complete three placements for two hours a week, for up to seven weeks. These experiences give our young people access to different workplaces, as well as a better understanding of their strengths and future career aspirations.

“We get an extra pair of hands and our placements make me think about how accessible our training is. It’s a win-win all round.”

Manager, Pelican Parcels



2 SUPPORTED INTERNSHIPS

These extended, unpaid placements offer an inclusive way of hiring. With the support of a job coach, candidates work 16 hours a week, for up to 26 weeks. Internships are chosen based on the young person’s skills, as well as the needs of the business. Employers receive training prior to a placement, and the ultimate aim is for candidates to gain work.

“This has been a two-way street. I think we’ve all benefitted – myself, the team, the candidate and the college itself.”

Manager, Brighton College



3 PAID WORK

Once they are in a job, candidates join our Wrap Around Programme. This programme offers ongoing, flexible and tailored support to both the candidate and their employer. Thanks to this provision, 93% of our young people remain in employment for more than a year, and 69% go on to stay in work for over three years (*Our Impact, 2025*).

“We’ve gained a dedicated and passionate employee, and having a more diverse workplace boosts our morale and productivity.”

Manager, Queen’s Hotel

The benefits

Inclusive workplace opportunities allow candidates to gain practical skills, social confidence, and financial independence, whilst employers benefit from committed, skilled team members who enrich the workplace culture.

Working with our candidates:

- Provides the opportunity to tap into an undiscovered, diverse talent pool
- Builds a diverse workforce that reflects the community it serves
- Boosts staff morale and personal growth
- Turns Social Value and EDI commitments into meaningful impact

- Promotes a neuro-inclusive workplace culture where everyone can thrive
- Offers access to our Employer Forum – welcoming events for our network of partners to build a community that champions workplace inclusion

The team at Double Tree by Hilton Brighton Metropole have hosted candidates for internships and paid work. Darren, the hotel’s Executive Head Chef, says...



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Working with Team Domenica has been brilliant. I was initially a little apprehensive, but Team Domenica’s support has been massive. They’ve made the whole experience not only possible, but enjoyable. [Our candidates] are exactly what I needed as a manager; they have truly broadened and enriched our kitchen.



Other opportunities

Our charity partnerships are flexible, tiered fundraising options designed to suit businesses of all sizes – so you can get involved in a way that works for you.

We offer genuine collaborations that deliver measurable social impact while strengthening your organisation's commitment to purpose, people and community. In return, you'll gain access to a range of meaningful benefits, including:

- Unique use of our welcoming pub, The North Star
- Priority places at high-profile events like Brighton Marathon Weekend and the London to Brighton Cycle Ride
- Staff engagement opportunities, training and volunteering

→ Positive PR, brand visibility and local recognition

→ Access to a growing network of like-minded businesses

We also offer a variety of creative, brand enhancing sponsorship opportunities, from running shirts to exclusive events.

However you choose to partner with us, we can create something that delivers real value, both for your business and for the young people we support. Contact us at partnerships@teamdomenica.com to find out more.



Inclusion is best achieved through collaboration and over the past three years, our partnership with Team Domenica has demonstrated the real impact of that shared commitment.

Tea Colaianni MBE, Founder and Chair of WiHTL & Diversity in Retail

Annie's story



Annie has always been a hard-working, fun and capable young woman. With our support, she was able to put her abilities into practice and gain the job of her dreams.

When Annie first joined Team Domenica, she felt anxious in unfamiliar situations, especially when meeting new people. But after training in our cafés, and completing work experience in the community, she began to come out of her shell.

In her second year, Annie completed a supported internship with Graysons at Wakehurst. She enjoyed the independence the placement gave her, and loved talking about work with her family and friends: "They're so proud of me!".

In September 2024, Annie was offered a permanent position at Seeds Café – a job she continues to hold today. Annie is a hugely valued member of her team, known for liking food prep, washing up and saying "Enjoy!" as she serves customers!



Working with Team Domenica has been a genuinely rewarding experience. The support they provide is outstanding, and we have seen first-hand the positive impact this has had, for Annie, and for us. We are proud to work alongside Team Domenica.

Matt, Deputy General Manager at Graysons

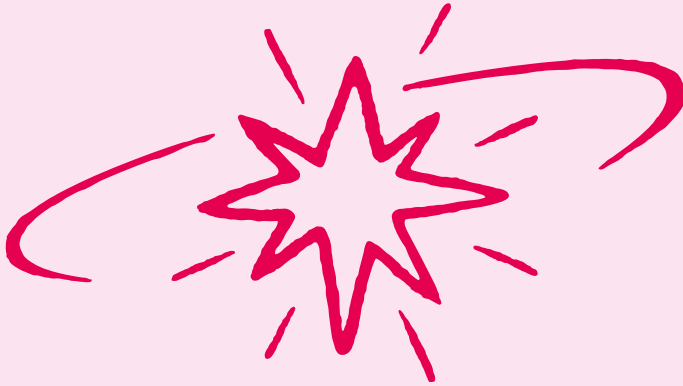


"What I'd say to any organisation thinking of working with Team Domenica is do it!"

Harri, Participation Manager at Wakehurst

Find out more about becoming an employer partner





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