National SEND Employment Forum Intern Case Study
New Supported Intern Experience During Covid Times

		Quote from intern:
EVERGREEN SCHOOL WARWICK	ROYAL LEAMINGTON SPA COLLEGE	"Very appreciative that National Grid have recognised the importance of the programme continuing during this difficult, strange time."

I started with National Grid in September 2020, at the time of writing this the world is still very different. This made me really appreciate getting a place at National Grid, it has given me something to look forward to. At the moment I am working with the Data Science team, on a project of trying to use Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning to recognise images of assets on the network. I have really enjoyed this, as it has also motivated me to learn python, a coding language. I have done coding in the past, but never got around to looking into python more, however the resources and support that I have received has really motivated me to expand my knowledge. So far, my experience at National Grid has been really positive and a nice introduction to the working world.

Dan and George working together to complete this task.

Benefits:
Colleagues have had an opportunity to work with new people, and people with disabilities. We have found that learning disabilities don't prevent George from doing great work. Also, we've had opportunities for staff level colleagues to develop leadership skills by mentoring and project managing George.

Quote from employer:
George is great to work with, he is light hearted and funny, brings energy to meetings and is enthusiastic to learn. He's worked really well completing the tasks we have set him in the image labelling project.
My manager Sam was approached to see if there were any opportunities for EmployAbility Interns in the data science team. We had a project and suggested it to EmployAbility, who introduced us to George.
George has gained familiarity with working in a commercial environment, ownership of project work and managing his own time, computational and software development skills.