

## My DRM Internship Story

Let me kick this off with the application process. I scouted out the DRM website before diving into the interview phase. I was curious about what DRM was all about. Then I stumbled upon a line on the website that really hit me: 'Our mission is to create an education system in which every young person will know they are valued and supported, whoever they are.' While growing up, my parents and everyone around me only seemed to give me props when I scored big, like getting into a top-notch university or nailing a killer grade. So, when I first heard about DRM, I just knew it was my kind of place. Luckily, I got the nod from my dream company (but honestly, after my interview, I felt pretty shaky and doubtful. My confidence hit me, and I wasn't holding my breath for a positive outcome. But guess what? I landed the gig at DRM and started an amazing journey there).

Over the past three months, I've crossed paths with various folks at DRM - colleagues, volunteers, and role models. Every single person I've met here has been a real gem, making me feel like I'm in some sort of dreamland. I've soaked up a ton of knowledge, and looking back, I've ticked off a bunch of tasks. It's a great feeling to know that I'm actually making a difference and contributing to DRM. The trickiest part? Salesforce (though I secretly enjoy the challenge). Thankfully, with Luis and Mitchell cheering me on, I felt pride when I aced my first dashboard and reports. Each day at DRM feels like a shot of energy because I'm genuinely pumped about the impact DRM is making. I've found a place where I can truly be myself, something I never thought possible in a workplace. I genuinely appreciate it. DRM is working for everyone's voice and a more inclusive and diverse world, and every job I do there makes me feel like I'm contributing to a better world.

Big shoutout to all my colleagues at DRM! Our two team days in Manchester were an absolute blast. Those two days rank right up there as the best times during my internship. We swapped knowledge, and in-person meetings bridged the gap from virtual to real. Among everyone at DRM, I've got to give a special shoutout to my line manager, Luis. He's not only super friendly but also the ultimate pro. Whenever I hit a snag or got lost in the sauce, he'd patiently guide me and toss in encouragement after I wrapped up a task. I'm grateful every single time, and words cannot express how thankful I am for having such a fantastic line manager. And then there's Mitchell – who sees and acknowledges everything I do while nudging me just to be myself and take my time; they've been a lifesaver. Oh, and here's a kicker: I used to think CEOs were out of reach, but Matt totally turned that idea on its head. He actually took the time to greet us three interns and showed genuine care for our work.

I can hardly believe it - my internship has been extended for another month! This additional time allows me to work on our new websites and master a new skill - Umbraco. Throughout this process, I feel compelled to express my gratitude to Helen and Olivia - the two individuals I collaborate with most frequently. They've provided detailed instructions and patiently addressed all of my questions (even the seemingly trivial ones). I also want to thank the entire DRM crew and my fellow interns and would like to take a moment to thank Jac and Emma for their recognition and encouragement throughout my internship. Your guidance has meant a lot to me. While I'd love to share stories about each team member, that would be quite lengthy. So, I'll keep those memories close to my heart and cherish them. We might not have had much time together, but I felt the love all around. I genuinely thank DRM for extending my time with the entire team. This last month has allowed me to



deepen my connections and sense of belonging within the group, strengthening my conviction that I didn't want this experience to end.

These three months at DRM have been an absolute goldmine for me. It's not just about work experience – I've grown a whole lot as a person. I'm more self-assured about chasing my dreams and not letting the unknown phase me. This stint has been a treasure I'm sure I'll remember for ages. And most importantly, if DRM's looking for interns next year, I hope I'm not forgotten! Please also let me know if there's anything I can do or be a part of. I'm more than happy to contribute to DRM in any capacity.

Thank you so much, DRM, and I truly appreciate all the wonderful people I've met here.