

GEORGIA BAIN

TRAINEESHIP, BELVOIR SPECIAL SCHOOL

Why did you choose to do a gap year traineeship? As the end of year 12 started approaching and we had to start making decisions about the following year, I found I wasn't ready to move away and go to uni just yet. I felt I needed a bit more time to consider my options for the future. I was deciding whether I should stay at my current part-time job and pick up some more shifts, go overseas and travel or stay locally and undertake a full-time gap year traineeship.

I ended up choosing a traineeship as I felt I would be able to gain a lot more different experiences compared to if I were to continue working at my part time job. Through my traineeship I have also met many different people, I might not have if I continued my part time job. Although I am completing my traineeship at a school I have found it a very different and rewarding experience compared to being a student at school. I have also experienced working full time.

What is your traineeship like? I have loved my traineeship. It has allowed me to have a rest from lots of studying and think about what my passions for the future really are, whilst earning money and equipping myself with new skills in the meantime. Although my traineeship is based around business admin I find myself heavily involved with the students greeting and interacting with all the kids as they come to the office to hand in notes, collect printing or just come for a chat.

Before completing my traineeship, I had never realised how many phone calls a school could receive in one day. I would say a large amount of my day is answering phone calls, whether it be from parents, external agencies or general enquires. I also have the job of constructing the newsletter each week and distributing it. Additionally, teachers may get me to do some of their odd jobs such as typing up a document or making resources.

What personal skills have you developed from your traineeship? I have definitely developed my communication and interpersonal skills. Answering phone calls is a large part of my day so developing my communication skills came very quickly. Through the traineeship, answering phone calls in a professional manner and knowing how to deal with all different kinds of people has become second nature.

What have been some of the highlights from this year so far? I have definitely loved getting to know all the students and each of their individual personalities. Although I have only been there for the year it has been amazing to see their progress and growth from the start of the year to now. The staff at Belvoir are an amazing team to be able to work with and they have taught me many valuable skills not only to do with my everyday work in the office, but also for the future.

2018 pathway: Bachelor of Medical Radiation Science (Nuclear Medicine), RMIT

