

The French Work Experience Exchange 2020

What is the French Work Experience Exchange?

It is the opportunity for Year 12 and Year 13 A Level French students to work abroad for a week, and live as a member of the family with their exchange partner. It is reciprocal, which means that their partners also come to Milton Keynes for a week, and experience living and working here.

Whereabouts in France do we go?

Our partner school is in Caen, Normandie.

What kind of work placements are available?

It varies from year to year. This year our students had placements in restaurants, including a creperie, a pizzeria, and a vegan restaurant. There was also a placement in a primary school, a pharmacy, and a radio station - our student had the opportunity to record and broadcast his own jingles!

How long has the Work Experience Exchange been running?

Nearly 20 years! We have very strong links with our partner school, and we know the local area very well.

Is there a similar opportunity for A Level students of other languages?

Yes: the German Work Experience Exchange has been running for even longer. Our partner school is in Schwerte near Dortmund.

A selection of photos from this year's Work Experience:-

1. Waiting to board our ferry at the port in Portsmouth



Portsmouth, au port

2. Typical street in Caen town centre. Most buildings are made from this honey-coloured local stone.



3. The entrance to the famous castle (once home to William the Conqueror).



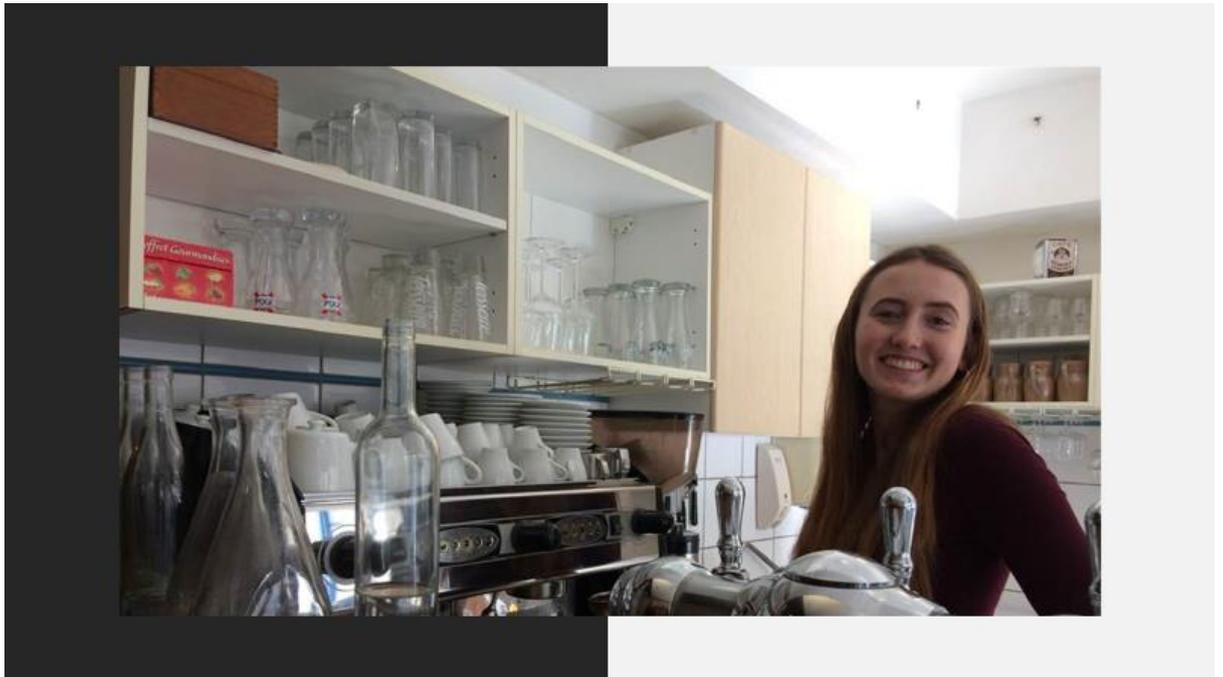
4. The restaurant quarter, next to the castle, in the centre of Caen



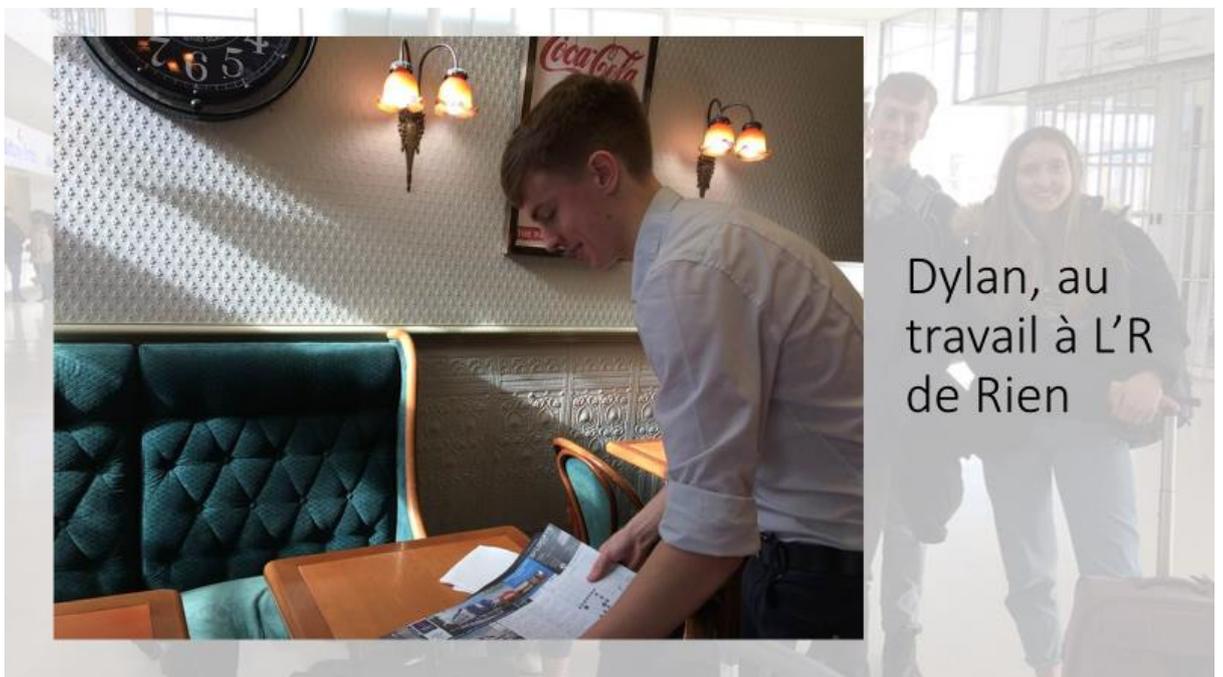
5. Roy, at work in the PE department of a local school



- Innes, at work in a creperie. This was her second year running taking part in the Work Experience.



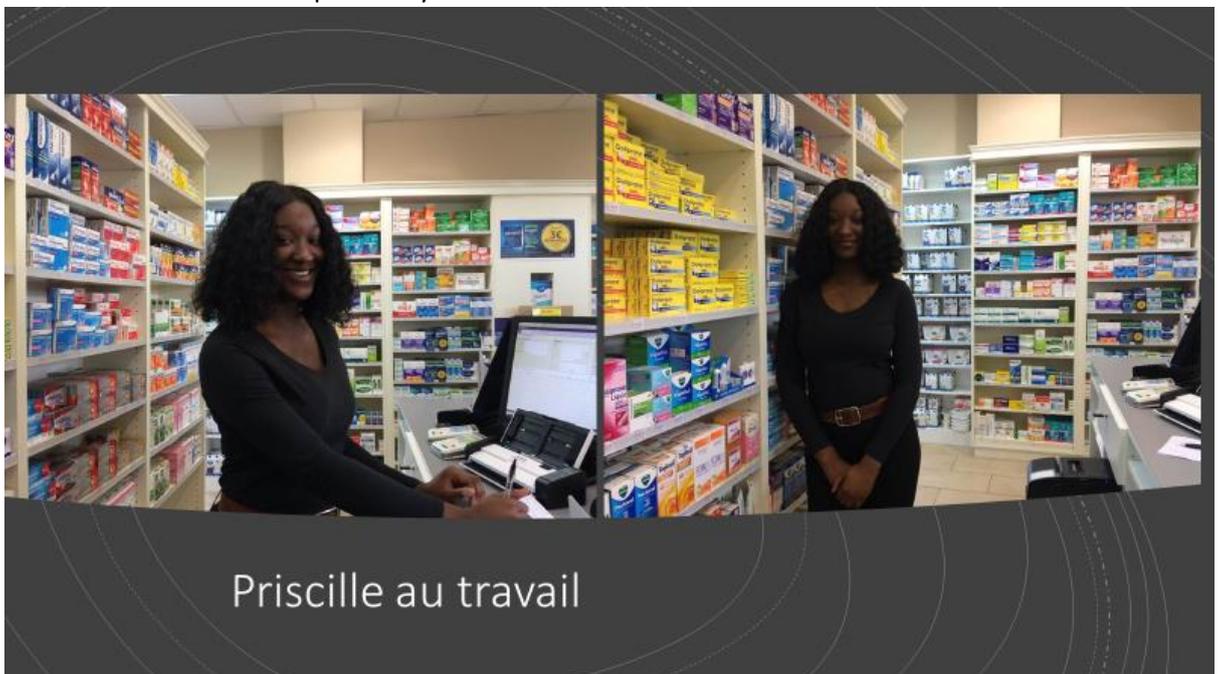
- Dylan, setting the tables at L'R de Rien restaurant.



8. Isobel, at work in 'Le Greedy Guts' – a newly open vegan restaurant.



9. Priscille worked at a local pharmacy.



10. Loren in a primary school.



11. Aaron worked for a local radio station.



12. The recording studio and programme schedules.

Le Studio



These Work Experience Exchanges give our students a wonderful opportunity which very few UK schools offer. As well as improving their speaking and fluency, our students have the chance to live as a member of a french family, and sample a different culture and food. The relationships forged can also turn out to be very firm friendships, and offer a useful contact in France. There are usually a few tears at the ferry port when we say goodbye!