

Daniel Clements on His Experience at the Serious Organised Crime Agency



As I worked on this project, I met people from different backgrounds; I worked with Olawale on the project, and have made staff profiles and put together introductions about the event and ethnic minority police officers.

For the Black History Month project, I was invited to an executive board meeting for EMNSA, where I felt included the moment I stepped in the door. The support group sets a good example of the support standard and awareness they provide for their members and SOCA as a whole. .

For months I was looking forward to starting my first day at SOCA, when July came, the excitements came.

I broke up from school for my summer holiday on 3rd July 2009, but the following Monday 6th July 2009 was going to be my first day at SOCA.

I went to the Guard House to wait for Sue and Mary, but within minutes they arrived to start work, so I was taken up to the office, where we all went into a meeting room to talk about what I will be doing at SOCA.

After the meeting, Sue showed me around the Spring Gardens premises and introduced me to lots of people. In the first week lots of names were thrown at me, but now I am getting the hang of it.

I have been meeting various people from various departments, and travelled to other departments within SOCA, the trip I enjoyed the most was to Slough and Harlow.

Within my time at SOCA, I was given the Black History Month project to work on. Prior to coming to SOCA, I didn't know anything about this event, so it was a challenge for me to find out as much as I could about the event and link it to SOCA.

I have enjoyed spending time working on this project, and also speaking to D DNAG about the disability awareness day, providing them with my own personal experiences.

At SOCA, the staff in the department were friendly from day one, and my disability didn't stop me from doing certain things, I am capable of doing.

I have met other deaf people within SOCA, who encouraged me to the fact that their roles are different and important to the organisation, which shows that there are no barriers to those with a disability.

I am very grateful to SOCA for choosing me to attend the summer placement; it has made me more confident of what I would like to do in the future. I am going to finish my A levels, then do a Criminology degree, and who knows maybe in five years time I'll be back at SOCA.

I would like to say a big thank you to the Diversity team for looking after me for the last six weeks.