



Timing and duration models – substantial work placement delivery

The 11 work placement models outlined below are being tested in the work placement pilots, having been identified by the 21 participating institutions as the most suitable for the courses their students are undertaking. We have suggested these models for illustrative purposes only and we expect there will be many more variations. You should ensure that you plan the appropriate no of days/hours into the curriculum for each course.

Recommended 11 work placement models (as used in the work placement pilot)

- Spring block (all learners in a course going out in spring term)
- long summer block (all learners in a course going out in summer term)
- Spring or Summer (some learners on a course going out in spring, and some in summer)
- short autumn block + long summer block
- short spring block + 2 days a week
- Autumn start 1 day release
- short Autumn block + 1 day a week
- 2 days a week from Autumn
- multiple 2-week blocks
- 1 day a week then short Summer or Spring block
- 1 day a week plus short blocks throughout the year (all with same employer)

Through discussions with providers and employers, The Challenge were also able to provide these conclusions in relation to the timing and pattern of the work placements:

- the 2 main timing options that were suggested were block release and day release
- the standard model for block release is 4 days a week at the employer and 1 day a week at provider to allow for English and maths GCSE or functional foundations
- employers voiced a strong preference block placement options
- for day release, a short block of 2 weeks at the beginning allows learners to be properly introduced to the business and its people, and to expedite any potential breakdowns