

## Young adviser 1

Without a doubt working for CRAE over the summer was an incredible introduction to the world of work. Working as a Young Advisor has been my first job and a brilliant experience. Initially commuting a few hundred miles to London from Newcastle, to work in an office for the first time was a bit daunting, but I had all the support I needed and everything quickly fell into place.

Also unlike work experience – where it is a well know fact all you do is make the tea – I was given tasks to do which really challenged and interested me. From working on the State of Children’s Rights report, designing and interviewing experts, to reviewing CRAE’s Young activist network, I enjoyed the work I was doing.

I had such a fantastic time as a Young Advisor and learnt so much about what it means to work at something you enjoy. I will always be thankful to CRAE for such a great opportunity, and would strongly encourage other young people to apply for the post next year!

## Young adviser 2

When making my journey to the CRAE office in London on the first day of work, I thought “Just get over your nerves and it will be fine.” On arriving, I realised that I was right; everyone in the CRAE office was welcoming, helpful and friendly. (*Name*), the other young adviser, and I got on really well too.

We first had our induction which was great in making sure we knew what we were doing, understanding the tasks and asking general questions as well. We then started on the main task of the children’s version of the State of Children’s Rights Report where we gave feedback on last year’s report and presented our ideas for improvement, which we then put into practise by creating our layout. I thought my first day went well and I was looking forward to the next.

For our membership task of creating a membership strategy for the Young Activist Network, we researched other Youth membership organisations to see how they obtain and attract new members. This proved to be the most difficult as most organisations did not respond or reply with sufficient information.

We then completed the tasks of taking relevant pictures for the report and finishing the layout. One day in the office I accompanied *staff* on a meeting with Every Disabled Child Matters at NCB which was interesting to see the process and the ideas between the two organisations. It was then Evaluation Day where I reflected upon what I had done and the achievements I had made, which corresponded with the expectations I had made on induction.

From the day I received the news that I had got the job to the last day, I thoroughly enjoyed my work. The whole experience was both interesting and valuable.