

Placement year profile - GSK

Sam

Sam did a professional placement year with GlaxoSmithKline. Sam got a First Grade Biomedical Science degree and went on to complete a PhD at the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine. Sam now works as a Medical Writer at Nucleus Global.



“I was a Biomedical Sciences student. Between my second and third years I completed a 12 month industrial placement with **GlaxoSmithKline** at the research and development site in Stevenage.

I was part of the Refractory Respiratory Inflammation department. The main focus of my project being metabolism and inflammation in steroid insensitive asthma.

My work was concerned with target identification which is one of the earliest stages of research in the **drug development** pipeline. It involves the use of literature mining and scientific experimentation in order to find biological molecules that could be viable for drug interaction.

This gave me **a broad set of scientific skills** such as experimental techniques including flow cytometry, cell isolation and cell culture and data analysis using a range of scientific software. I was also able to improve my presentation, time management and literature mining skills.

As well as having **a great year earning money** and working full time in a research position for a well-known pharmaceutical business, **I have also gained a lot of experience of life as a scientist.** I've managed to add something valuable to my CV.”