

Millennial interns are not happy making tea and doing photocopying, finds study

Young people feel increasingly sceptical about the value of internships as the majority of them still carry out menial tasks such as tea-making and picking up lunch for their bosses. According to a survey, only half of 18-30 years olds believe their skills are taken into consideration when completing a summer internship.

- 5 Over 53 per cent of young people said they spent the majority of internships printing and photocopying documents, whilst over a third said most of their day is spent making tea and picking up lunch.

The study, carried out by research group Censuswide for the Lloyds Banking Group's social programme arm, suggests internships could be hindering¹ the confidence of young people to develop their careers. Only a fifth of respondents said that they feel internships have no or even a negative impact on future employment opportunities, whilst only three out of ten young people said they feel internships boost employability.

David Rowsell, head of education and employability programmes for Lloyds Banking Group said: "This research highlights how important it is to tailor internships to meet young people's needs so they can use the experience to strengthen their skills, abilities and ultimately boost their employability."

The findings suggest young people feel internships help companies more than they help themselves, but Seamus Nevin, head of employment and skills policy at the Institute of Directors, said he still considers internships and work experience to be "an advantage when hiring graduates or school leavers for permanent roles".

He added: "Quality internships can be very beneficial to career development, offering young people the opportunity to see for themselves what the workplace is like and test their interests in new areas."

By Shafi Musaddique, www.independent.co.uk, Monday 21 August 2017

1) **To hinder** = (ici) *diminuer*