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From completing the placement I have learnt that I am able to adapt to working in an office environment with business development professionals, as well as working in the lab with scientists. I have also learnt that I have more 'softer skills' than I thought I did, and that I was able to network effectively with people from across the organisation, despite struggling with networking in the past due to a lack of confidence.

This placement has confirmed that business development is a potential career option for me once I finish my PhD.

## Top Tips for other PhD students?

I would advise other students to make the most out of their placement and throw themselves in to working life at the organisation. I was able to get involved in fundraising, volunteering, the CRUK mentoring scheme and personal development opportunities whilst I was on my placement, alongside my main project, which helped me to develop lots of additional skills and get the most out of the experience. Talk to and get to know as many people across the organisation as possible. Not only is it a fantastic networking opportunity, but you may also come across people working in interesting, appealing jobs that you never even knew existed!