

THE PROVIDER INSIDER

INSIGHTS INTO FURTHER EDUCATION

AN INTERVIEW WITH WYLP APPRENTICE

National Apprenticeship Week Blog – a follow on interview with the WYLP apprentice Beth Vickers, one year after her first blog interview and following her first year on a business administration level 3 apprenticeship.

A YEAR AGO YOU HAD JUST STARTED YOUR APPRENTICESHIP, HOW HAS IT GONE OVER THE PAST YEAR AND WHERE ARE YOU NOW WITH IT?

I am now coming up to booking my EPA. I have loved doing my apprenticeship this last year I have done things I never thought I would/could. I have really enjoyed the past year learning new things, while been able to further enhance the skills I already had to make sure I am the best version of me I can be.

WHAT ASPECTS OF THE APPRENTICESHIP HAVE YOU ENJOYED THE MOST? ARE THERE ANY ASPECTS YOU WOULD HAVE LIKED TO IMPROVE?

I have enjoyed doing my apprenticeship as it gives you the opportunity to learn on the job as well as acquiring relevant experience within the industry. I have enjoyed the Off the Job element as well as it has allowed me to step out of my comfort zone and try my hand at new opportunities.

HOW HAS THE APPRENTICESHIP IMPACTED ON YOUR JOB ROLE AND IN THE WORKPLACE & DO YOU FEEL YOUR SKILLSET HAS IMPROVED OVER TIME?

The apprenticeship has helped with my time management as I now feel I can prioritise tasks, this is crucial for the job I am doing now. It has brought on my knowledge in areas that I didn't think about working in before, such as project management whilst adding to my knowledge of areas that I was aware of from past jobs. It has also helped me build on my confidence in my own abilities and challenge myself to go further.

HOW HAS YOUR ROLE CHANGED OVER THE PAST YEAR? HAVE YOU TAKEN ON MORE RESPONSIBILITY?

Throughout this past year my role has changed massively, with that has come an increased responsibility. I now do manage data for a number of providers. I also have more responsibility when it comes to running WYLP events, social media and website development. With the increased responsibility I have had the full backing of colleagues which had made the step-up easier.

WHAT ACHIEVEMENT IN WORK OR IN LEARNING ARE YOU MOST PROUD OF THROUGHOUT THE PAST YEAR?

To now be confident enough to public speak. I would of never of done public speaking before completing my apprenticeship. I have always been quite put off at the thought of public speaking but through working at WYLP I have been given so many opportunities and with their help I now love doing it.

HAVE YOU THOUGHT ABOUT YOUR NEXT STEPS? DO YOU KNOW WHAT YOU WOULD LIKE TO DO NEXT?

I am still undecided on what I want to do next. I will either be moving on to a higher apprenticeship within project management or using my level 3 qual and experiences to progress on the job.

WHAT TIPS, ADVICE OR SUPPORT WOULD YOU GIVE SOMEONE THINKING ABOUT STARTING AN APPRENTICESHIP?

I would say DO IT!! It has been a really good experience to be learning different skills on the job as well working towards a qualification that will help me in the future. Doing an apprenticeship also allows you to put what you are learning into practice.

