

CONNOR BUTLER

NVQ Level 3 Business Administration



WHY DID YOU DO AN APPRENTICESHIP?

I chose to study an Apprenticeship because it gave me the valuable workplace experience that my university course did not. I left university with both an undergraduate and postgraduate degree and found myself to be quite unemployable. The response I often got was 'you seem perfectly capable and intelligent but we expect X years experience'. Eventually I got fed up with this response and went to seek an alternative which is where I found my apprenticeship.

WHAT LEVEL APPRENTICESHIP ARE YOU STUDYING?

I studied an NVQ Level 3 in Business Administration, working for a local authority.

HOW HAS STUDYING AN APPRENTICESHIP PREPARED YOU FOR THE WORLD OF WORK?

I had previously worked quite a few jobs, primarily in retail so I would argue that I was already quite prepared. What the apprenticeship gave me was an incite into the 'professional' world.

DID YOU ENJOY YOUR APPRENTICESHIP?

I really enjoyed the working aspect of my apprenticeship. I had a great employer and the team supporting me were great. I will admit that I found completing the NVQ Level 3 to be my least favourite element of the apprenticeship, but that wasn't where the value was for me.

HOW WAS THE PROCESS OF APPLYING/ STARTING AN APPRENTICESHIP?

The process was no different to that of a normal job. I went through a 2-stage interview process where around 50 candidates were competing for 3 job roles.



**CAMBRIDGESHIRE
CHAMBERS OF COMMERCE**

Operations Executive

"My apprenticeship was a fairly open book which focused on the wider role of business administration. It's a fairly broad topic and can be applied to many elements of my current employment. As my apprenticeship was with a local authority economic development team I gained a lot of experience of interacting with businesses which has helped immensely in my current role at the Cambridgeshire Chambers of Commerce."