"I joined Edmund Carr as a junior in the accounts and audit department in September 2004, following completion of A level qualifications earlier that year. I knew that University would not be for me at that time and Edmund Carr offered me the option to take on a work release contract, enabling me to attend college one day per week to study towards the AAT qualification whilst working the other 4 days.

When I joined Edmund Carr I had very little knowledge of accountancy and one of the senior members of the audit and accounts department was assigned the job of training me, however all members of staff were more than happy to help and provide advice if needed.

Work release is an option I would recommend as it enables you to apply the theory you are studying at college to the real world from the very beginning and can often ensure you pick up and understand the principles easier.

I am now an Audit & Accounts Assistant Manager and have a varied portfolio of clients that I manage including; individual personal tax clients, sole traders, partnerships and companies, and I am responsible for overseeing/preparing their accounts and tax returns. I also manage and have responsibility for external and internal audit clients as well as a number of dental practices."

Alan Wheeler Assistant Manager