

Once I had completed my A levels in Maths, Chemistry, Biology and General studies I had decided that university wasn't for me. After working for several years I spent 4 months travelling and in July 2012 I returned and started working for Edmund Carr in the accounts and audit department.

Shortly after joining I also began the AAT course on day release, starting with level 3 and progressing on to level 4 the following year. Each level has 6 exams covering a variety of different topics in accountancy from accounts preparation to taxation and there is plenty of support during your studies, both from Edmund Carr and the training providers.

After completing level 4, I then began studying towards the ACCA qualification which consists of 14 exams over a 4 year period, although by completing AAT first I was exempt from the first 3 exams. So far I have managed to pass 3 exams and First Intuition, the training provider, are very knowledgeable and supportive of their students in preparing them for the exams. By studying for a qualification as well as working you can apply what you learn in the classroom to your work in the office to reinforce your knowledge and provide a better service for the firm's clients.

Edmund Carr is a friendly place to work where they are always more than happy to help you with any questions you may have. Working in the account and audit departments you get to see a large variety of different clients of all sizes, including farms, doctors, schools, limited companies and charities.

I feel that by working at Edmund Carr I have been provided with support and a variety of experience that I would not have got had I gone to a larger accountancy firm.

Ben Sapsford

ACCA trainee