

I first discovered Edmund Carr back when I was 14 in year 10 at school through the Trident scheme for work experience. I had a very enjoyable 2 weeks' experience where everyone was very friendly. I was there at a busy time but everyone was very helpful. I was informed that if I enjoyed the job I could go straight into it and not have to go to university and I learned about the range of potential qualifications and the process of qualifying.

I decided to go to university to keep my options open and sat a joint degree in accountancy and mathematics. As I was enjoying the accountancy study, I wrote to Edmund Carr to request further work experience for the summer break between my second and third years of university. They offered me a longer period during which time I effectively undertook the role of office junior and carried out the tasks of a normal junior. I was warmly welcomed and helped by everyone as if I was already part of the team.

Upon graduating from university, Edmund Carr offered me a permanent position, which I gladly accepted as I had had 2 previous positive experiences working there.

The first 6 months is always tough as there are so many basic things to learn before you can confidently pick up a job and know how to approach it. As I had had a few months experience prior to joining permanently, I returned confident that things would be relatively easy! I soon discovered that every job is very different, and the learning curve is much more long term as you are continuously learning.

Study leave consisted of day release to college. As I had been to university with a relevant degree, I achieved 5 exemptions from the 14 compulsory exams. The college timetable was structured on the basis that no exemptions were available, however Edmund Carr were very flexible with my studying arrangements, allowing me to work around this timetable as necessary.

I tend to work on the accounts of doctors, farmers and barristers; and with regards to audits, mainly McDonalds franchises and charities. It is very rewarding to gain experience from several clients in a sector and be able to pass these skills on to work I do for other clients.

My goals for the future are to continue to develop myself via CPD by self study, courses and potentially further qualifications, as by broadening my horizons and increasing my knowledge base, I am able to offer a better service to our clients.

Emma Cook  
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