

I LOVE MY APPRENTICESHIP!

Ellie Colk, Flagship Group, Housing Policy and Practice Apprentice



- **Where did you go to school?** I studied A Levels at Hellesdon High School
- **What subjects did you study?** Biology, History and Psychology
- **Why did you choose an Apprenticeship?** I chose an apprenticeship because I didn't want to study at university full time, I also wanted to gain more experience in the workplace.
- **What path did you take to get to your current position?** I began looking for apprenticeships in my second year of sixth form and applied for my current role at Flagship. There were multiple interview stages including an online video interview and face to face interview which included a presentation. I found out that I was successful in May before taking my exams, so I knew which grades I needed to aim for.
- **What does a typical day in your role look like?** My role is really varied, I have worked in Housing, HR, Development and Governance. Currently I am in the Governance Team, I often work on Fraud cases and have been heavily involved in an internal fraud awareness campaign. I also work closely with the Board of our subsidiary companies insuring that we can demonstrate good oversight and governance as a business.
- **What do you think are the most valuable skills have you learnt on your apprenticeship?** Project Management is a key skill that I have learnt throughout my apprenticeship, both academically and in practice in the workplace. I have the responsibility in the office of being given a task and being left to run with it as my own project to deliver. I have also learnt key skills such as public speaking, communication, time management and how to be more assertive.
- **What is the job prospect/progression when you complete your apprenticeship?** There are lots of opportunities for progression at Flagship as the company is passionate about growing its own talent. Now that I have completed my level 4 apprenticeship in Housing Policy and Practice, I will be enrolling on to the level 5&6 Chartered Managers degree.
- **Where do you see yourself in 5 years?** I would like to be in a senior position at Flagship Group, whilst continuing to develop my leadership and management skills.

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- **What do you like best about being an apprentice?** I like learning new skills and studying whilst getting paid. I also like the extra training we are given the opportunity to attend at Flagship. This has enabled me to expand my skills set in different areas such as finance, leadership and management, mental health first aid and standard first aid as well as personal development opportunities such as assertiveness training.



Why do you love your apprenticeship?

I love that my apprenticeship has opened up so many opportunities to develop myself both personally and professionally, I have learnt lots of new skills in the workplace and gained more confidence.