



Molly Dobson

Company- Burstalls Solicitors

Job Title- Trainee Paralegal

Why did you choose this Career?

I chose this career as a result of my time doing work experience in an office dealing with HR, I felt comfortable with my surroundings and could imagine myself being successful in a working office environment. I chose law as my pinpointed interest as it is ever changing and there is a whole range of different job roles you can partake in, ranging anywhere from HR assistants to paralegals to solicitors. I knew I wanted to work in an office for a long time before choosing my career but my work experience guided me in the right direction. Law is an ever changing subject and the spectrum is so wide, no two days are the same, and as a person who gets bored very quickly this is exactly what I wanted. I wanted to be faced with new challenges every day and not just the same old, day in day out.

What pathway did you follow, why was this the most appropriate for you?

I started my apprenticeship at Burstalls on a level 2 business admin course, it helped me develop basic skills of working in an office such as; health and safety, safeguarding, rules and regulations, equality and diversity. The basics of the real living world and how to cope. This seems like a small progression but straight from school it seemed like a lot of work, especially as it was something totally new to me. I felt like this was the most appropriate starting point for me as I had always known I wanted to work within law and going to college to pursue this just wasn't appealing to me, I felt like I would learn more being in a working environment. Once complete I then moved on to my level 3 Paralegal apprenticeship with Cilex law school, which I am currently in my final year of completing. This again was the most appropriate route for me to follow as my absolute dream is to become a solicitor one day and this was the legal progression and first step of me reaching that goal.

What is the best thing about your job?

I would say the best thing about my job is the opportunities for learning, as previously mentioned the law is ever changing so there is always new and updated legislation to keep up with. Along with this no two days are the same and my work varies a lot, I enjoy this as it keeps me busy and engaged in my learning and application as it is never boring. Alongside this the second best thing is that you get paid to learn and develop new skills!

What advice would I give my 16 year old self?

If I could give my 16 year old self one piece of advice, it would be that you've got this and it will all work out. It all seems pretty daunting when it comes to applying for jobs/ apprentices and leaving school, especially when all your friends and class mates are heading off to college with a simple application and grades being the decider of your career. You can easily be pressured into taking the easy route of going to college and doing something you aren't too keen on because your friends are doing it, but don't. The best advice I would have given myself is go for your goals, even if they seem unrealistic you will get to where you want to be eventually and it will all work, work hard for what you want.



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