



The Insurance
Institute of Leeds
Chartered Insurance Institute



A Q&A with Holly (Aviva Underwriting Apprentice)

BLAZE BENEFIT

How you have benefited from doing the Apprenticeship Scheme?

I joined the Aviva Apprenticeship Scheme after completing my A-levels and deciding I wanted to continue learning but in a more practical environment. This is a 3-year course which has set parameters in terms of internal authority, trading behaviours and professional qualifications. After completing my Apprenticeship I am confident that this was the best career decision I could have made. It has set me on a great path which has the full support of the business behind me. I feel fully integrated within the company and I am thriving with the ever-growing responsibilities I am able to get involved in.

BLAZE LEARN

What have you learned through being an apprentice?

The whole Apprenticeship has been one big learning curve. I started knowing next to nothing about insurance and 3 ½ years on I have gained notable authority and have my own broker panel to deal with. Through the process you learn a variety of soft skills such as time keeping, team work, organisational skills etc, which are transferrable and key to any line of work. In addition to this I've gained industry qualifications which are well recognised and evidence the level of understanding I've acquired during my time at Aviva. The most useful learning for my future development is to continue to ask questions and learn as much as you can through the sources available.

BLAZE ASPIRE

What has the apprenticeship enabled you to achieve?

I've achieved a great number of things during and after my apprenticeship. Completing the apprenticeship is a huge achievement in itself as the scheme is very challenging and encourages you to develop at an increased pace. As an apprentice you have the full backing of the company and exciting opportunities are always arising outside the usual role which you're fully supported with. Going forward I'm looking into the advanced apprenticeships offered within Aviva which provide more in-depth learnings/qualifications and broaden your horizons which will provide access to more senior opportunities.

BLAZE ZEST

Why you are passionate about the value that apprenticeships bring?

I'm really passionate about apprenticeships as I feel they're a great alternative to university with benefits which aren't promoted enough. I think they provide the perfect balance of on the job learning and professional qualifications which can really accelerate your career and give you opportunities which may not otherwise be possible. During the apprenticeship you're fully involved in the day to day running of the business and have a sense of purpose and responsibility, all of which are invaluable in the workplace and provide a good grounding for whatever industry you wish to progress in.

BLAZE ENERGISE

Explain what you believe apprentices have done for the business

As a business, Aviva have invested massively in apprentices and have been running their programme for over 5 years now. Bringing in a fresh blood to an ever-changing business is a great way of challenging the system and simplifying processes which ultimately benefits everyone (employees, brokers, customers etc). This can really improve morale within the teams and provide a better environment for people to thrive in.

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