

Samuel Mann, Business Administration Apprenticeship, Basildon Borough Council



My name is Samuel Mann, and I am currently the Building Control apprentice for Basildon Borough Council.

What made you apply for an apprenticeship role?

I joined the council back in September 2019 just coming out of secondary school, not knowing what path I wanted to take in life. I knew I didn't want to go to college and wanted to get straight into work however I was unsure on what I really wanted to do. The apprenticeship role really gained my interest as I knew I would still gain plenty of knowledge and qualifications whilst getting paid which was ideal for what I was looking for. My current apprenticeship was mentioned to me, and I also see it on social media, so I gave it a shot and went for it.

How have you found the experience of being an apprentice in local government?

My experience in working in local government has been nothing but good, I have been given plenty of support and opportunities as an employee.

How do you balance working and studying at the same time?

Working and studying at the same time can be difficult as you can easily get caught up in your work and avoiding study time but studying is just as important. The best way I found to avoid this happening is choosing a specific day every week to take your study time, block that afternoon or morning out in your diary and purely focus on your study. There are many benefits to the apprenticeship route, the main one being the qualifications you gain at the end and the experience you will have that a full-time college student will not.

What makes apprenticeships a good development route (journey) for your career?

Apprenticeships are a good development route as once your apprenticeship is over and you go to apply for a full-time job you will have plenty of experience in the working environment alongside the qualifications needed for that role.

Why would you recommend an apprenticeship in local government to someone considering one?

I would highly recommend an apprenticeship in local government to someone who is like myself and unsure what they want to do, local government is perfect for this as there is plenty of different opportunities in different roles and departments to go down so you can find where you enjoy most and what suits you best.

What do you hope to accomplish career-wise over the next five years?

Career-wise over the next five years I hope to be in a full-time job with all the qualifications I aim to achieve within my current role.