



Nicola Crawford, Summer Placement

Well it was finally happening – that all important 3rd year summer placement I had applied for was taking place. I had just spent the previous two weeks on an emotional rollercoaster of eager anticipation, sheer excitement and happiness and here I was finally on the doorstep of EQ's Dundee office, ready to begin my first morning. Crossing the walkway over the water felt a bit like walking the plank but I had all my university training and my hopes and ambitions propelling me firmly forward. It was now time to sink or swim, so with a wry look at the lifebelts I gathered up my confidence and entered the building.

My first day with EQ was one to remember. It started with a celebration of success with a "bacon roll day" as one of the students had passed their final CA exams and continued with induction training. Things definitely had got off to a good start!

Thereafter, EQ provided me with focused and progressive training in an atmosphere that instantly made me feel comfortable and part of the team. The staff in the office gave me individual support when I needed it and I found that everyone was approachable and happy to help. I had the opportunity to take on a variety of tasks and became confident in delivering them in an accurate and timely manner.

There was no such thing as a "boring day at the office" with EQ. Each day of my placement was varied and the work was both exciting and challenging. I spent a considerable time analysing client's financial records and using the appropriate accounting software to prepare sets of accounts. I gained valuable experience in the completion of tax returns and this specifically integrated with the theory I had studied in third year at university.

During my time at EQ, I was delighted to be invited to join the staff on their social outing to the Carnoustie Golf Hotel for a luxury spa day. This gave me the opportunity to get to know the staff better, relax and feel part of the EQ family. I really enjoyed the outing and it was one of the many highlights of my placement.

In the future I hope to return to EQ as an employee as it is a successful company with a clear focus and positive core values. To put it simply - the EQ team are a fantastic bunch with an exciting future ahead of them.