Meet Alumni, Kian

Thank you to former student Kian Davis for answering our questions about his time at The Hundred of Hoo Academy, and his career since.

- **When did you attend the academy?**

September 2018 – May 2019

- **What did you like best about being there?**

How welcome I felt! I had moved to HoH sixth form from a different school and knew only one or two people beforehand. On my first day, as with every day I spent there, I was made to feel as welcome as if I had spent my entire school career there.

- **Any favourite memories?**

Three different days spring to mind: My first day, being welcomed with open arms and made to feel like a part of the HoH family from the moment I walked in the door; World Book Day, being able to see all the awesome costumes from my sixth form peers; and the expedition from my Silver Duke of Edinburgh Award.

- **Any clubs/activities that you participated in?**

As a part of the Public Services course I did at the time, I took part in my Silver Duke of Edinburgh Award. This was enjoyable as not only did I get to know my classmates better but met others from across the sixth form I'd never have met otherwise!

- **Favourite subjects?**

BTEC Business with Mr Willders!

- **Any staff you particularly remember?**

Some of the staff I particularly remember are Mr Willders, my BTEC Business teacher, Miss Solly, my Head of Sixth, and Mr Paton and Mr Mundie, my Public Services teachers.

- **Where you went after leaving?**

Since leaving HoH, I've been working to diversify my skillset – I've spent some time working as a Lifeguard and a Wet Sports Activity Instructor for Haven Holidays, and I'm currently working as a Business Administration Apprentice for AC Goatham & Son, with my role focussing on Transport & Logistics and IT.

- **What you studied after leaving?**

I am currently studying for my Level 3 Business Administration qualification. I hope to attain this within the next few months, and then move back into the Leisure industry full time with business experience.

- **Career journey since?**

May 2019 – Left HoH sixth form, took on full time role at Haven as Lifeguard and Wet Sports Activity Instructor
September 2019 – Started Business Admin Apprentice role at AC Goatham & Son

- **What qualifications do you need for your current role?**

Possibly the best part of the job – as its an apprenticeship, all I needed were GCSEs! Maths and English (Lit and Lang) were needed at Grade 4 minimum, and that's pretty much it. As it's a level 3, previous business qualifications would help, but its not a necessity.

For the lifeguarding role, a National Pool Lifeguarding Qualification (NPLQ) is required, and to run Wet Activities I have undergone lots of internal training at Haven.

- **What skills and abilities does your current role require?**

Being able to use a computer is a must! I work with all aspects of Microsoft Office on a daily basis, so being able to have at the very least a basic understanding is essential.
For both job roles, being able to think on your feet and improvise in stressful situations are advantageous. Aside from this, the desire to learn is the most important skill to have. Every single day I learn something new!

- **What does a usual work day look like for you?**

Every day is different! As soon as I am in the office, I will make a coffee and sort through my emails and see if anything has come up that needs my immediate attention. If there is not, I will have a catch up with anything that has happened the previous evening. After that it depends which department I am working in!

- **Any advice that you'd give to the 18-year-old you?**

I would give absolutely everyone the same advice, regardless of age – if you have a plan of what you want to do, do not give up at the first hurdle! Getting to that specific job role or position is not easy and you will find countless obstacles on your way. The most important thing to do is not give up – step back from the situation and take a calculated approach to solving the problem. You will see the solution is a lot simpler than you first thought!