



Murray, Audit Empowered Graduate

Transcription

Hello, my name is Murray and I'm part of the Aberdeen office Audit department. I studied chemical engineering at university before joining the Audit graduate programme in 2018. Audit requires us to gain a deeper understanding of our businesses processes and controls as well as any opportunities and threats they may face. So no two days are the same really on different days like we are testing different processes, different controls, whilst communicating with senior management, both within KPMG and the businesses we Audit. KPMG offers two pathways, on the Audit programme. There's either the Empowered pathway or the Intensive pathway. On the Intensive pathway you sit the majority of your exams within the first year. Whereas on the Empowered pathway, your exams are a bit more spread out over three years. We're given time off to study and sit these exams. In Scotland, we sit ICAS whereas other offices sit ACA, which is either on the Intensive or the Empowered pathway. Coming from engineering, I was quite nervous about starting Audit accounting. Because I do not really know anything about it. But KPMG really embraces fresh perspective and diversity of thought. So regardless of your background, you will settle in really quickly. Gaining a professional qualification was important to me because a chartered accountancy is really highly regarded around the world and it gives you a great oversight of business and business decisions and financial statements. Which can be really beneficial for your career going forward.

I would say the key skills needed to succeed on the Audit programme are time management and resilience. There are times where you have a heavy workload and you're trying to keep your work-life balance in check. So having these two skills is great to have. But over the course of the three years you'll improve these massively. Communication is also a key skill to have because you're constantly communicating with your Audit team members as well as your managers and senior management within the businesses we Audit. But again, you'll improve this skill massively over the course of the three years. KPMG continues to utilise and improve technology platforms, to ensure we can maintain the quality of work. As well as collaborating as a team to ensure the best outcome for businesses that we Audit. Obviously in recent times we've had to work has changed. However, there has been a clear focus on maintaining the quality of our work. KPMG is continued to be on the front foot while embracing this new, evolving world, we find ourselves in at the moment. As an Audit team we have used this challenge as an opportunity to innovate, ensuring the rights at work we do to contribute to the success of businesses and capital growth of the economy is maintained. It's been great to be a part of this and it continues to be exciting going forward.