

MY APPRENTICESHIP WITH DYW ORKNEY

Orkney's Natasha Stacey wasn't sure what career path to follow when she left school but now has her sights set firmly on the future thanks to a Modern Apprenticeship. She, 21-year-old, found out about apprenticeships through a colleague at NHS Orkney, where she worked as a switchboard operator.

Natasha said: "During my time at school, everything seemed to be focused towards university, which wasn't the best option for me, as I've always learned better by physically doing things."

Now Natasha is helping to encourage others to follow her lead as part of her role with Developing the Young Workforce (DYW) at Orkney College UHI, where she completed her business and administration apprenticeship.

She said: "If you have the opportunity to do an apprenticeship then you would be silly not to – it's the best decision I ever made."

"I'm almost jealous of pupils in S5 and S6 now being given the chance to do a Foundation Apprenticeship in school."

During her time with DYW, she has helped plan numerous events for young people, but she's also been looking ahead to her own future. Natasha said:

"The Modern Apprenticeship has really sparked an interest in the training and development side of business and I'm definitely considering that as a career route. I also wouldn't rule out a Graduate Apprenticeship as I could stay in Orkney and complete the university part through distance learning. I've got so many options available to me now."



Natasha's manager Rachel Scarth said:

"It's a great opportunity for Natasha to develop skills further in a working environment and also to pass on a young person's perspective, which undoubtedly helps us develop as an organisation. It's been a massive benefit having her with us."

