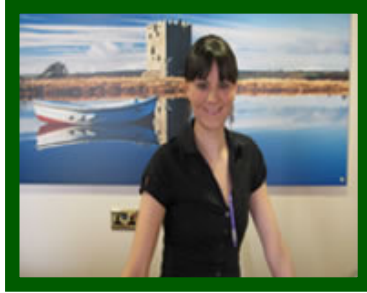


smart people:
think minerva



Natalie Hamblin

Minerva has worked with Natalie since she left Kirkcudbright Academy, and she has now gained her dream job.

The Challenge:

Natalie achieved good sixth year grades at Kirkcudbright Academy, but rejected University offers as she was unsure this was the right option for her. She did not know which career path to follow.

The Solution:

During the summer of 2008, Natalie worked as a waitress to earn money and to develop her people and communication skills; she then came into Minerva to discuss different training options available to her. After trying out a couple of opportunities and not settling; Natalie made a conscious effort to apply for a variety of Administration jobs. She was offered 4 days per week at The Smoking Matters Service in Castle Douglas, which still allowed her to contribute one day per week voluntary work at the YMCA drop-in centre, and to continue working part-time at The Ship Inn at Gatehouse of Fleet.

Natalie signed up with Minerva People Limited to undertake a Modern Apprenticeship in Business and Administration, which she was able to fast-track and complete by committing additional time and effort. After several months, Natalie realised that she enjoyed working with people, and looked to move away from a purely administrative role. She was rewarded in April 2009 when a vacancy as Duty Manager became available at The Ship Inn, and was pleased that the Owner recognised her capabilities and maturity for such a role.

The Results:

Natalie is busy developing in her role as Duty Manager. After a period of consolidation of learning, she may engage with Minerva People again to undertake another vocational qualification in Management. Not bad for the girl who left school not knowing what she wanted to do, and who has now discovered the joys of learning and putting this into practise.

"When I left School I changed my mind every week as to my future career!

I am now in the perfect job. It is varied, and no two days are ever the same. I get involved in all aspects of running the hotel."

Natalie Hamblin

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