

# MEGAN CAULKETT, COMPASS ACADEMY APPRENTICE

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## Background

**Name:** Megan Caulkett

**Age:** 20 years old

**Location:** Grays, Essex

**Experience:** Working in hotels

“Before I joined the Academy I thought I knew what I wanted to do, I wanted to be a hotel manager and that was it, no one was going to change my mind – but since I’ve been on the Apprenticeship programme I’ve seen endless opportunities – there’s so much to choose from. At the moment, I know want to be in a management role within Compass, but there are so many doors that are open to me.”

Megan is five months into her Apprenticeship, and so far has completed a three month placement at the O2 Arena for Levy Restaurants, where she exceeded her own expectations by processing and completing a whole payroll for around 500 members of staff. She has also undertaken a gross profit management course; something she feels will prove extremely beneficial in a management role.

It is not just learning hands-on skills that have made the programme interesting for Megan. She describes some of the highlights as being her initial assessment day at Chelsea Football Club, providing silver service for 300 people at Sandhurst Military Academy, and getting to work at the 2009 Brit Awards – the kind of experiences that are rare in more academic routes of learning.

Megan describes the main benefits of an Apprenticeship as the ability to earn while you learn the development of concrete skills which you can show to an employer, and the hands-on approach to learning. She says there is “no shadow of a doubt” that her Apprenticeship will have increased her earning potential and will aid her career progression, and that the further she goes in the programme, the more knowledge and development she is gaining day-by-day.

She feels that more employers should offer programmes like the Compass Academy, as they will get more from their employees in return. “For Compass to have chosen me, and to say, ‘We want to pay you to learn about and understand our business,’ makes me feel in some way special. I will show my up most loyalty to a company that actually wants to invest in my future and my time. They will get my determination to be the best, because they’ve given the best to me.” Finally, when asked what she would say to someone who is considering doing an Apprenticeship, Megan says: “I would just say go for it – it’s a great way of learning!”



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