

Apprenticeship Case Study

Rebecca Codd

Studying: Architect Degree Apprenticeship

Career: Part 1 Architectural Assistant at UMC Architects

"I started my studies with an undergraduate BA Architecture degree at De Montfort University (DMU). I had a great experience during this time, I liked the way that academics approached teaching and I loved the working in the Vijay Patel building. The facilities on campus were very modern and offered excellent resources to assist my studies.

"I took a year out of studying after my undergraduate course to work, with the intention to return to DMU and begin a master's degree. However, after joining UMC Architects I was offered the opportunity to do an apprenticeship which appealed to me due to the financial assistance this provided.

"I have a mentor at UMC and a mentor at the university, we all come together to discuss the course progress, my work, and how they complement each other to ensure that the theory I study is being applied in my role. As an architect there is a lot of hands-on learning on the job as you develop your career, so the apprenticeship route complements this well.

"It has been great to mix professional and the university elements in blended learning, the academic environment is such a different situation to how I work in a professional setting.

"I have found that being in employment has given me strong time management skills which allow me to effectively balance work, life and studying.

"My experience of an apprenticeship at DMU has encouraged me to continue and do a master's degree in the future and then the further exams required to become a fully qualified architect."

