

Aliea Mahmood - Data Expert Apprentice @ Great Ormond Street Hospital



**Great Ormond Street
Hospital for Children**
NHS Foundation Trust

What led you to do an apprenticeship?

I have completed two apprenticeships in the past and feel it is a great way to gain qualifications while building up the skills and knowledge you need for your desired career path.

What goal were you trying to achieve?

Working in a data orientated role, I really enjoy the work that I do so I knew I wanted to develop within my career. My goal was to be the best I can be at my job and progress within the data analytics / data science field.

What benefits did the apprenticeship offer over other academic courses?

Apprenticeships offer different levels which are equivalent to academic qualifications such as GCSE's, A-Levels, Degrees etc. whereas other academic courses may not offer courses equivalent to those levels.

My particular apprenticeship offered a lot of support from trainers, tutors, and a very supportive team at Just IT, it also offers the opportunity to be a member of a professional body which I really like.

Did you know an apprenticeship was available to you before starting?

I knew my organisation offered apprenticeships but I had no idea there was an apprenticeship in the data analytics field which was perfect for me.

How does the programme blend learning with the role you have?

I am able to apply the knowledge and skills that I have learnt from the programme to my role in projects and many other areas. I have received recognition for some of the projects I applied my apprenticeship knowledge and skills to at work.

What three things do you like about the programme?

- 1) Being able to study whilst working.
- 2) Becoming certified after the programme.
- 3) Being able to apply the skills that I have learnt to my role along the way.

What are the main things you have achieved through the programmes?

I have learnt a wide range of programming tools and languages that I weren't previously exposed to. The programme has also led me to expand my network in order to learn from the experience and knowledge of others within the field and expand my learning resources to stay up to date in the data analytics / data science field.

I have also been promoted to a Information Analyst and feel the apprenticeship contributed hugely to my promotion as I was able to showcase my experience and skills through my portfolio to show why I was a best fit for the role.

Would you recommend apprenticeships and why?

Yes I would highly recommend apprenticeships as they are very flexible to the apprentice's needs and allow apprentices to study whilst working and earning.

I highly recommend Just IT as a apprenticeship provider as I have received nothing but support from every single person from the team I have come into contact with since the beginning of my apprenticeship. I have completed two apprenticeships previously from different providers and this was by far the best one as I was amazed by the support from the staff and their real desire for their apprentices to grow and succeed.

Want to learn more?

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