

## CASE STUDY

### Matthew Cook

ASSISTANT MANAGER



After completing A levels at Suffolk One Sixth Form College, Matthew joined Ensors as part of the trainee intake in August 2018. After successfully completing both the Association of Accounting Technicians (AAT) and Association of Chartered Certified Accountants (ACCA) qualifications, he now works as a member of the Business Services team at the Ipswich office. He provides accounts and bookkeeping advisory services to sole traders, partnerships and limited companies, with careful consideration of any corporate tax implications.

## Quotes from some of our trainees...

“I joined Ensors after completing my A Levels with no prior experience in accounting or tax. I have settled into the team, made easy by the many friendly and supportive team individuals. I encounter new learning opportunities every day that challenge me, and have helped me to develop and progress.” **Abby** – AAT Trainee

“Ensors have been very supportive while I have been completing my ACCA exams. The tuition and study leave offered have allowed me to pass my exams first time, while not being overrun with work, and maintaining a social life.” **Luke** – ACCA Trainee

“Ensors is a wonderful place to work and has helped immensely to build my professional skills and confidence. Being a student at Ensors means you get some great support with your studies. The move to ICAEW after finishing AAT was seamless, with lots of friendly students who have helped me learn the ropes. No matter what you’re studying, all the students are encouraging, understanding and will offer support when you need it.” **Emily** – ICAEW Trainee

## Why did you choose to go into accountancy?

I attended work experience in a Finance Department of a local company, where I got my first taste of accountancy work. I had always liked working with numbers, so I decided to then take A level Accountancy. After completing the A level and researching the career paths available, I decided I didn’t want to go to university and instead wanted to work while learning - so an accountancy apprenticeship was perfect for me.

## Why did you choose Ensors?

During my time at college, I attended talks from several local accountancy firms. Ensors really stood out to me, as the firm put particular emphasis on helping develop trainees through their Apprenticeship Programme. After visiting the Ipswich office, I got to see how the firm really cared about each individual member of staff. During my interview my colleagues were really helpful: answering my questions and putting me at ease.

## What do you really enjoy about your job?

At Ensors I get the opportunity to work with many different and unique clients, which means my day-to-day work is always very varied. Early on at Ensors I realised the job wasn’t just putting numbers into a spreadsheet, but rather solving problems - which really appealed to me. There is also a sociable team atmosphere at Ensors, and we regularly do activities as a group, which brings the team together.

## What was your first day at work like?

I was excited for my first day at work but also very nervous before I joined. Ensors has a buddy mentor scheme, so on my first day I was taken out for lunch by a fellow trainee. I was able to ask them questions and gain their insight, which helped to set me at ease before meeting the rest of the team. The rest of the day consisted of training and onboarding which really helped me get to grips with working within an office environment.

## Benefits offered with our trainee roles

- Study support
- Contributory pension
- Staff awards scheme
- Free parking
- Social events
- Trainee pay reviewed twice per year
- Well-being support
- Dress for your diary
- Buddy scheme
- Health cash plan
- Working from home one day per week for experienced trainees
- Sick pay