

# FROM CAREERS FAIR TO HR APPRENTICESHIP

## ALICE - DECEMBER 2017

**At WM Housing we always try to work with partnering organisations to seek out career opportunities for our residents and help our communities thrive.**

One such example was when eagle-eyed student, Alice Sale, from Grace Academy in Solihull, Birmingham, quickly snapped up a job opportunity after attending her school's career fair.

Over 30 businesses and red-brick universities attended the careers fair at Grace Academy in March 2017 to help Year 9 to 13 students explore the options open to them after leaving school. It was there that Alice saw an ideal opportunity within the Human Resources team at WM Housing Group.

Successful former student Alice Sale, said: "It all started for me at a careers fair at Grace Academy when WM Housing told me there would be an apprenticeship available after Sixth Form. I wanted to gain work experience and a qualification at the same time, so I'm also studying for an NVQ Level 3 in HR."

Commenting on their involvement in the careers fair, Claire Hardwick, Head of Community Investment at WM Housing Group, said: "We are delighted to be working with Grace Academy and other schools in North Solihull to help raise aspirations and increase training and employment opportunities in the area.

"We've been working closely with Grace Academy over the past two years and have achieved some great results. We've hosted six Grace Academy students on school work experience at our head

office which is very close to the school, and taken part in their careers fairs and Apprenticeship Week activities.

"We are thrilled that Alice applied for the apprenticeship opportunity and is now working with us and we will continue to work with Grace Academy to develop further partnership opportunities."

Julie Baker, Post 16 Manager, Grace Academy, added: "It's really important that our students get the chance to speak to external business people face to face so they have direct access to information about the different courses and jobs on offer. There is no other recruitment method that offers this level of direct information across a range of industries."



Alice Sale, HR Apprentice, at WM Housing Group.