

Nadia Davidson – National Apprenticeship Week



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If you think apprenticeships are a young person's game, then think again. They are open to everyone, something 47-year-old apprentice Nadia Davidson can certainly vouch for. She's sharing her story for #NationalApprenticeshipWeek.

"I came to the UK from Jamaica in 2018 and didn't want to waste any time so got straight into working life. I joined Southern in April last year as part of the team at London Victoria and I work as a Salespoint Assistant. My main responsibility is to provide travel advice and issue tickets for essential travel and although I joined the company in April, due to the pandemic I didn't actually step foot into the station until July!

"Whilst I was being onboarded into the company virtually, I was contacted about an apprenticeship that I could take part in alongside my job. I thought it sounded fantastic and jumped at the opportunity, having not done any studies here in the UK. I wanted to be as prepared as possible for my new role and as the apprenticeship is all done online, I was able to get stuck into it straight away!

"I was offered English and maths and have already completed the majority of the course, with just three maths modules to go. As part of the apprenticeship I also have to do extra reading and attend workshops and for the programme I'm on, it lasts 13 months in total so by the spring I'll be officially qualified.

"Learning anything initially can be daunting but once you get into something that genuinely interests you, you find new and exciting ways of learning about that subject on a daily basis. For me, learning at any age is great both personally and professionally. I would encourage anyone and everyone to be part of an apprenticeship programme should they get the chance to, because there's so many opportunities to develop your skills whilst you work!"