



## Ajmin Haque

2020 Eagle at Macfarlanes

I recently graduated in English Literature and have previously volunteered in schools, worked in retail and in property management. While I was volunteering with City Year UK, I heard stories from people who had previously taken part in the Eagles CSR programme. Hearing their experiences of how the programme helped them to develop their careers while also making a big impact really resonated with me so, once I graduated, I immediately applied.

When I was offered a place on the programme, I could not believe my luck! The Macfarlanes team was offering practice interviews for all the Eagles on the programme, which we all found very useful (and daunting) as these were our first experiences in a corporate interview setting. However, I believe this equipped me for my real interview because, in March 2020, I joined the Inclusion & CSR team! I started my placement with Macfarlanes on 16 March and I was in the office for two days before lockdown began. Initially, I was worried that having to work remotely would lessen the impact of my placement, but this has not been the case. I have been part of countless important projects, fun virtual events and informative training sessions which I will be able to refer to throughout my career.

My initial six months at Macfarlanes were fundamental in helping me develop key skills such as work prioritisation and to learn about the importance of Inclusion & CSR. Since starting, I have experienced a positive change in my confidence whether when presenting, managing my own workload or regarding a specific initiative I have been working on. I feel as though I am always learning something new.

Despite only seeing my team in person a couple of times, I am very thankful for how great they have been at welcoming, teaching and supporting me throughout my placement, especially as they have had to train and work with a new joiner remotely during such a busy year!

As a recent graduate, I was unsure about my chances of having a corporate career as it felt daunting and difficult to achieve. However, I can confidently say that my Eagles internship with Macfarlanes has boosted my career prospects, supported my personal development and I now feel very positive about my future! I am the first Eagle that Macfarlanes has taken on and I feel very fortunate for my experience which has truly broadened my horizons.