

Natalie Walsh

My name is Natalie Walsh and before getting that phone call to say I had secured a place on the scheme I was working as a volunteer for my local community radio station and also in part-time employment working as a Front Of house Assistant at the Manchester Opera House.

I came on the scheme half way through so it was totally out of the blue when I got offered a place, but also a day that I know has helped paved the way for my career ahead.

Initially I hoped to achieve some experience and an insight into how the BBC works and which way forward I may wish to go when the placement ended. Instead I was thrown into the world of sport in radio and a fast paced environment where no two days are the same.

I have gained valuable experience learning things such as going to press conferences, editing audio, writing cues and setting up interviews as well as producing and desk driving.

I have also produced packages and had a lot of audio I have worked on or towards played out on the airwaves.

The training I have received has been more than I ever expected and I will now take it all on board and forge ahead into the wonderful world of media.

I have recently secured a place on the Northern Lights 2 training scheme which will start pretty much when my placement ends. Still based in radio, this scheme is going to take me into multi-platform media.

My plans for the future are to become all that I can be using my talents and all that I have learned to take me forward.

I am in no doubt that all of the skills I have gained, and people I have met through the MFPS have certainly helped me recognise my potential further and helped to build my confidence for a better future.

For anyone thinking of applying for the scheme my advice would be, don't think just do it! If you do your homework and know your facts then everyone has got a chance of getting an interview.

You never know till you try Good Luck.