**Kickstarter Q&A 2**

***A short bio about yourself - name, role, where you’re from and what you’re passionate about outside (or inside) of work***

*\*Please can you also provide a head shot, unless you’re happy for me to use the one you provided when joining*

My name is Enid McLachlan, I am a Trainee Strategic Development Analyst (soon to be Junior Strategic Development Analyst). Before moving to London back in September I was living in Edinburgh for about 6 years – initially to get my undergrad degree in maths and statistics and after that just working odd jobs end enjoying the city. Outside of work my hobbies and interest are varied, but most recently I’ve started learning to skateboard which is equal parts fun and terrifying.

***Why did you apply for the kickstart programme at Trust Payments?***

Initially the description of the analyst role is what grabbed my attention. I love a challenge. I love constantly changing tasks and projects, and with my degree I wanted a role that was analytical, so it automatically sounded like a perfect fit. Furthermore, after reading about Trust I got the impression that it was a highly collaborative, supportive company that was growing quickly, which meant that coming in as kickstarter I knew I would get the support I needed starting out and have plenty of room to grow if I was offered a full-time position. It felt like a no-brainer.

***What are the key skills you picked up since joining?***

One of the first skills that springs to mind is communication. Since joining I have massively improved my ability to be an effective communicator. Being direct, knowing what questions you want answered, listening, and developing open lines of communication between you, your manager, and colleagues is something that takes time and intention to improve. Additionally, I’ve learned a few tricks on Excel and am actively learning to enhance my powerpoint skills so that one day I can whip out a gorgeous presentation in a single afternoon.

***How have you found the culture at Trust Payments?***

Trust is absolutely a supportive and collaborative company, so my instincts were correct! I have yet to come across a team member that did not have time to answer my questions, assist with a project I needed help with, or even give constructive feedback. And as a kickstarter, you’re offered so much support in your personal and professional development. The culture is very friendly and encouraging.

***What advice would you offer to other young people in a similar situation to yourselves prior to the programme?***

I would think about what kind of role you would love to have and feel proud to be in. Think about the skills you have already and the thinks you’ve learned over the years, practise interviewing, perhaps take an online class in something that is relevant and interesting to you. Most of all I would advise staying positive and proactive both in the search for the right role for you as well as just enjoying your life!