

Headline: By Developing Essential Skills, John Sampson Creates Opportunities for Young People

John's Background:

John Sampson works in education with young people to help give them the skills they need to become successful. He impacts Newham's community of young people by giving them the best opportunity to become successful. While John Sampson isn't originally from London, he has learned a lot during his time here. He has been working in London for the last six years, but he is originally from Scotland. For the first five years, he worked in the criminal justice system as a prison officer at Her Majesty's Prison and Probation Service. He knew he liked "interacting and getting to know people and wanted a job socially focused in some way". What he liked about working in criminal justice is that the people were all so different from each other and "were bringing so many different experiences and perspectives to that world". John's work in criminal justice "made him realise that everybody has the potential to do well and be good and bad". He wants to "make sure people have the opportunities to capitalise on the good".

Work at Skills Builders:

John currently works at [Skills Builder](#) which is "an education-based organisation that empowers young people and fulfils their potential to build skills for their future". The organisation was developed in 2009 and now has reached 2.3 million people. Skills Builder has partnered with tons of schools and impacts these students by teaching them essential skills for their future. These skills are built for different workplace settings.

John's Role and Impact on the Community:

John's specific role is Development Manager at Skills Builder. He works with different "partnerships in education, social enterprises, and charities". After working in criminal justice John said that Skills Builder was only a "natural next move" because all of the work is about giving people the opportunity to be successful by giving them the skills to set them up. The organisation is about making an impact so that the next generation has all the opportunities they need to have a bright future.

What Does Success Means to John:

To John success can be when "you achieve something and then it's done. If you put everything into an achievement and feel like there is nothing more to give, then it can be taken as a massive success". However, with that being said, he feels like "continued success is all about finding what's next for yourself". Success all depends on one's own opinion so "continuing to push and challenge yourself is something that can continue a successful journey all together".

What Inspiration Means to John:

John is inspired by “people who are totally comfortable and confident around others and are able to adapt easily within many situations”. One of the most important things John has learned is to simply “try new things”. Growing up John’s parents were very encouraging to get John to be open-minded about new experiences. He feels that “life is about pushing yourself out of your comfort zone”. By broadening his experience John has surprised himself and learned he likes things he never would’ve expected. He also has grown a lot from those experiences.

John has learned a lot from the people he's worked with and wants young people to have the skills to have job opportunities they will love just to like him. He loves working for young people and working for the Newham community. His journey continues to grow as he continues to open up doors for the next generation.

Skills Builder partners with tons of different organisations, educators, and people. To learn more about working with Skills Builder as an educator, employer, or parent, or want to make an impact visit <https://www.skillsbuilder.org/organisations>.

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