**James**: I’m James. I am a Software Engineering apprentice, working in the audience data team here at the BBC in London. I have an interest primarily in software engineering and coding, but I also have an interest in television and radio production.

Working at the BBC, it’s great to be able to combine those interests together and see various aspects of the company.

I was considering going to university, but then it was actually my mum who looked up other potential routes. She found apprenticeships, and specifically the BBC apprenticeship, and then there was the formal interview process where they basically asked me loads of questions, which was a bit terrifying I suppose. Sometime later, I got the email saying welcome to BBC.

I’ve started my second year in the Level 6 Software Engineering degree apprenticeship. Every week I do have a study day, where I just do all my university studies and tutorials.

I work in the audience data team. Our team basically is responsible for all behind the scenes stuff to do with iPlayer and Sounds. We start the morning with a stand-up meeting as a team, so we basically go through all the stuff that we’re working on and make sure that everyone’s on the same page. We then get to work, working on our projects, it’s quite flexible as sometimes I’m in the office, sometimes I’m back at home.

As somebody who has Asperger’s syndrome, I certainly had a lot of changes to support me. I find that the environment is nice, I enjoy my current set up. The BBC has a lot of support for neurodiverse individuals. I really like my team, I think they’re such a fantastic bunch of people and I’ve learnt a lot from them, and sometimes we have team social activities, so we go out, we’ve done crazy golf, we’ve done VR experiences.

Working at the BBC is something that I never imagined I’d be able to get into. I feel really privileged to be working here, it’s really cool to be a part of it really.