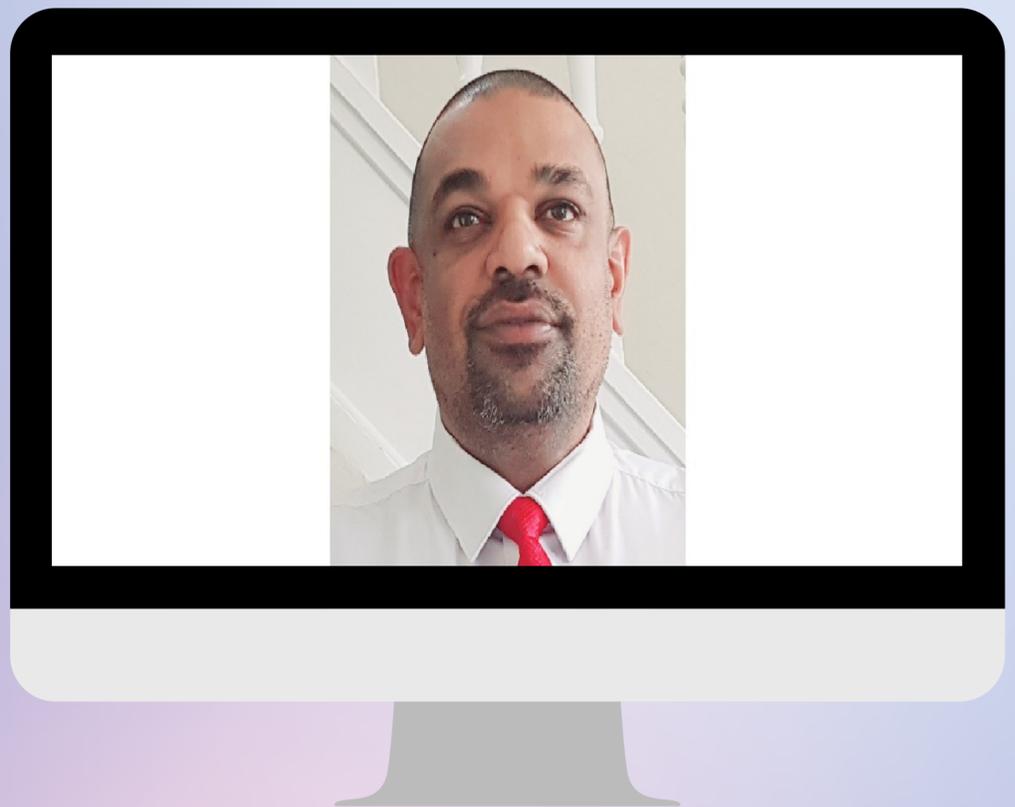




Javid Iqbal

Clear Sky Legal Services Limited



Please can you tell us about the company you work for and your current job role & responsibilities?

I am the director of Clear Sky Legal Services, I am a one man firm who handles all from team maker to director, everything, I don't have any secretary's or employees. The company is solely ran by myself. We are a legal services company. My main role specialises in family law and Islamic divorces.

Please can you tell us a little about your career pathway and any advice you would have liked to hear whilst at school?

I am Bradford born and bred, attend school in Bradford and then went onto University in London. I studied marketing and law at University and then fell into banking and got a great job opportunity to work for a very well known Australian bank at that time. Due to personal circumstances I then moved back to Bradford in which I followed my career pathway in various banks in Bradford.

One of my very close friends had a law firm and he asked me to come in and to help out and from there I started to really get into the law industry. My attention was swayed and I decided to try and pursue a career in law. I did my GDL course and worked for various firms and then recently started up my own firm. I feel like I fell into the Law pathway as I enjoyed it. Every day was different as is every case and person. Being a very talkative person I felt like it was a role which was very suited to me. I always say to my own children and close family that you need to be know your strengths and weaknesses. My main strength is communication and getting to know people on a personal level so I can provide a tailored service to them.

Do you have any opportunities which your company offers to schools/students?

Yes. I have previously worked with the Careers and Technical Education partner through working with Nabila Ayub. Currently we are still looking at offering some potential opportunities such as apprenticeships to the younger generation in Bradford. However it's something which I need to understand the structure of, such as work space, the financial side and the benefits and potential downfalls which I could face. It's something I am continually looking into and may consider in the future.

What advice would you give to a young person aspiring to be in similar roles? Do you have any advice for potential candidates? What do you look for? (Tips to stand out)?

I would say it depends who they are, where they have come from and how old they are. Personally, for me it is more to do with background. I am a big believer in trying to give back to the community. I used to be involved with Mosaic for a while helping to mentor children. My main advice would be you need to work hard, enjoy what you're doing and don't do it for the prestige. Do not do it for the money or the name and recognition as those are not long term.

What are your thoughts on importance? Education or Experience?

Again, I would say it depends. I believe education is important if you're doing a vocational job role but education is also important per se.. During university education is where you learn about life. Its where you build friendships, learn about yourself and form ideas and experience new cultures and new surroundings.

In regards to experience I believe that life and successful people have taught us that experience and perseverance is important. I believe it is down to the individual and what path they want to follow. You need to be true to yourself and make sure you have the mind-set to get where you want.

Personally, I am very proud about where I have come from and where I am now. I believe it is important to stay humble and never to forget where you came from as ultimately that is part of your character.

Lastly based on your experience did you have any major pitfalls which you would describe as a learning experience?

I have had a few pitfalls doing my career and life but the only thing I would say is that you need to persevere. Life stops for no one. You learn from your mistakes and anyone who is a success in the world will tell you they have had many failures to get where they are now. Remember that you are never too old, young, or good/bad to have a fresh start. You can do it whenever. An example would be one of my family members during Covid. He was a taxi driver and was struggling financially. He decided to retrain and become a builder and this in itself can be seen as perseverance. The attitude should be never to give up. As the saying goes "it's not about how many times you get knocked down that count, it's how many times you get back up". The world is your oyster. There is no reason to think you can't do something. You just need the will power and persistence to be able to be successful. You need to be passionate with any job you decide to do. If you are just chasing the name, title and money you will fail.

Would you consider supporting local students in the Bradford district?

Yes definitely I would. As I mentioned above I have worked with the CTE partnership and look to working with them again in the future. I am a very hands on individual who likes to see a difference being made and I always say if a young individual can relate to you it will automatically break down a barrier. As I have mentioned previously I am very proud of where I have come from and I wish to be able to encourage more of the younger generation to follow this.