



BARRY BROWNE

PROCUREMENT MANAGER

THE FOUNDATION

What is your role in The Foundation?

I work on the print side of The Foundation. Primarily I look after procurement – which is working with various suppliers to meet our clientele's needs. I make sure that we buy competitively, that deadlines are met and the quality is good. I've sourced unusual items that we haven't provided before and quote most print jobs. I look after my own accounts too and over customs clearance paperwork. We've had some interesting requests, from clients over the years, I help make it happen.

What has been career your journey?

When I was younger, I had no intention of going to University. Academic learning is not my thing, I know that about myself, but I am a great logical thinker and learn on the job. When I left school after an attempt at A-Levels, I got a job at a freight company, it was an office-based job and I worked in that role for a couple of years before I got a job in the print warehouse at The Foundation and I worked my way up in the company.

How do you get experience to be a Procurement Manager?

Try a lot of things. You don't always need to go to university to get to where you're going. Work hard at everything you do, be respectful and be a great team player. You can always work your way up in a company.

What other types of work have shaped your career?

I am very big into sports – the likes of Football, Golf and lawn bowling. In my free time I coach my sons football team. I find that playing bowls has helped me become a big team player which is vital to working in an agency or any work. Everyone is different and you're working with lots of different personalities so it's something that has really helped me as a team player and leader.

Quickfire Questions

What's the best piece of advice you've received?

Don't worry about the things you can't control. You can't control everything that happens to you in life, so do your best and try and control the things you can.

What advice would you give your 16 year old self?

It's the same advice I've received, don't sweat the small stuff. Work hard, and if don't get there the first-time round? There's always another path you can take to get where you want to go.

Who has inspired you?

My Dad.

Interesting fact?

I came 32nd in the World Championships in Lawn Bowling. I've travelled the world playing on the Ireland international team.