

# RICS MATRICS YOUNG SURVEYOR OF THE YEAR 2022 FINALISTS

Sava is pleased to be sponsoring the Residential Property category in the RICS Matrics Young Surveyor of the Year Awards 2022. We asked finalist and Sava graduate Callum Walker about his journey into surveying, and his advice to anyone considering a career in surveying. Hear what Callum had to say below.

## Callum Walker AssocRICS

Sava graduate and surveyor at Home Surveying



### What was your role and background before joining the Diploma in Residential Surveying and Valuation?

I was a valuer for a corporate estate agent. I had previously worked in estate agency for just under 6 years in total and my roles included sales and lettings negotiator and valuer.

### What made you consider a career in residential surveying?

I've always had an interest in property and after meeting surveyors during my estate agency roles and shadowing them, I knew it would be a career I would enjoy and it would be a challenge.

### What was it in particular that drew you to Sava and the Diploma in Residential Surveying and Valuation?

Sava was recommended to me by another graduate, so I decided to go to one of the open days in Manchester. I think the main selling point was that I could carry on working full-time whilst doing the course, as well as having the one year classroom work so I could integrate with fellow students and we could help each other through the process.

### Would you recommend the Diploma in Residential Surveying and Valuation to others looking to pursue a new career?

Yes, in fact I have recommended two people already. The main reason for the recommendations were because of how in-depth the learning is and that it's all based on residential property.

### What would you say has been the highlight of your journey so far?

“ Definitely meeting the people that are working in this industry. Everyone is so helpful. There's so many people I've met that have already had a massive impact on my career in such a short space of time. ”

### Did you work while completing the diploma? If yes, please tell us how you found managing both work and completing the diploma.

Yes, as mentioned above, it was one of the main reasons for being able to start the course.

I won't lie and say it was easy because it was far from it. I was mainly doing my assessments during the evenings,

weekends and sometimes on my lunch break at work if my assessor had got back to me during the day. I had to have good time management skills and dedication to get through all the work but it was well worth it!

### If you could give one piece of advice to learners who go through the process, what would it be?

Find a mentor as soon as possible. The help that they can give you is priceless.

### How does it feel to be a finalist in the RICS Young Surveyor of the Year Awards 2022?

Surreal. To have been nominated by my employer is touching; they've helped me so much and I'm thankful to them. To just be nominated, I feel like a winner already.

### A great work ethic must be an important factor in your career, what or who inspires and motivates you to be the best you can be?

Three people really, my Mum and Dad being two of them, they have always told me to try my best and always give 100%. My Dad, who is a site manager on a commercial building site, has always been someone I have looked up to, having seen his work ethic and drive to perfect every job he has completed is inspiring. And finally, my wife, Nicole. She gave me the final push to go back into education, and she had tried her best to motivate, support and to make me a better person and continues to do everyday.