

Meet the team

Christine Spree

outset.



Meet the team - Christine Spree

What do you do at Outset and how do you support our clients?

I am part of an excellent team responding to client's questions about all sorts of HR queries and issues, helping them to deal with anything from a disciplinary, grievance, absence, maternity and much more besides.

Give us a brief timeline of your career so far

I started in HR in retail and completed by HR qualifications at that point. I left to work at in education as that was more convenient when I had a young family. As my children got to the point when they didn't need me and I was effectively made redundant from caring duties Outset gave me the chance to rediscover my HR knowledge.



What has been your biggest challenge in your role?

It has got to be the pandemic and dealing with all the client concerns around managing their employees through such a difficult time while adapting to different working arrangements myself.

What do you enjoy most about your job?

I love the variety of issues that we deal with that comes from having clients from different industries and areas of the country. I love talking to the clients and helping them with the various situations and concerns that they have. It is great to get such positive feedback from clients about the sensible approach that we follow. It is great to work with such an amazing team so that we can discuss some of the more weird, wonderful or complicated issues raised and support each other with that.

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What do you think sets Outset apart?

Have I mentioned my amazing team?! This is not just the team working on the Hub but also the wider Outset team who are always so helpful, friendly and professional. Also, the clients we work with we get to know really well and they often make me smile when they call for a catch up and some advice – even with some of the more difficult types of issues that need help with.

When you were young, what did you want to be when you grew up?

I can't particularly remember having any specific career ambitions, and applied for the first thing that I saw in a local paper as my parents said I couldn't leave school without a job – I ended up in IT (you wouldn't believe it from my technology skills these days!) This was in an HR department and I enjoyed listening to their discussions so asked if I could help out more with that side of the department and the rest is history.

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What do you enjoy doing when you are not working?

I do enjoy running and try to get out for fresh air and head space a couple of times a week.

Who inspires you most and why?

My children, they have both coped so well with life in lockdown when they should have been able to enjoy special birthdays and university life. They never cease to amaze me with their confidence and positive outlook on life which is refreshing and a joy to see – when they are not driving me mad that is.



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What piece of advice would you give someone in business?

Take time and think through all options before making a decision and don't let your own emotions get the better of you. While the first thought might be the right one it is important to consider other options too, even if you discard them eventually, otherwise you might miss something important.

And finally... What is one thing you've learnt during lockdown?

How important communication is, particularly with home working this has become so essential and how important face to face contact is – even if via virtual means. This applies to family as well as business when we haven't been able to meet in the traditional way.



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Chris's contact details

