A-Z OF APPRENTICESHIPS





WHICH APPRENTICESHIP ARE YOU DOING?

Mechanical Engineering Degree Apprenticeship.

WHAT LEVEL IS YOUR APPRENTICESHIP?

Level 6.

WHAT DO YOU DO?

Due to the nature of moving placements every three - six months, roles and responsibilities change frequently and are dependent on the type of placement. For example, whilst in a Design placement using CAD (computer aided design) software is a key element to my work. Whereas, during a Manufacturing placement, manual work such as assembling hardware is a focus. Alongside going to work four days a week, one day is spent attending university. Although balancing work and university can be intense, the learning can cross-over which is helpful. An example of this is: as part of a university module an assignment involved a task to generate a technical drawing. It was helpful as the skills gained from doing a placement in the Design Definition Office enabled the production of this technical drawing to be quick and effective. Overall, rotating placements allows me to gain insight in many areas of the company which is extremely valuable for obtaining both knowledge and new skills.



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WHAT IS THE MOST EXCITING PROJECT YOU HAVE WORKED ON?

There have been many exciting projects which I have been involved in. My personal favourite was optimising a detector housing. In order to perform the optimisation, a new tool within CAD software was explored, which enhanced my skills and understanding of topology optimisation. Following this, I presented the outcome of the project to engineers. Overall, this research project was interesting, and enabled me to gain experience of using a new tool as well as developing my ability to present.

WHAT IS YOUR PROUDEST APPRENTICESHIP MOMENT?

One of my proudest moments was when I saw the baseplate I had spent time modelling being manufactured and used for testing. From working on the baseplate in CAD for months, constantly amending and improving parts, it made the moment when I saw it physically very significant.

WHICH FEMALE INSPIRES YOU AND WHY?

My mum in particular is someone who inspires me. From her consistent work ethic to overall positive outlook of life, she is someone who has always encouraged me to keep striving to achieve my dreams. A key example, is my mum's willingness to keep learning by enrolling on courses to continue upskilling herself. The knock on effect of this is that it motivates me to be resilient when studying, as although it can be tough to balance work and university, the array of knowledge and skills that is gained as an outcome will be worth it.

"KNOWLEDGE IS POWER." FRANCIS BACON

