

ii

EMILY

INNOVATION & DEVELOPMENT
APPRENTICE



FCDO Services

WHICH APPRENTICESHIP ARE YOU DOING?

Product Design and Innovation.

WHAT LEVEL IS YOUR APPRENTICESHIP?

Level 3 (Advanced).

WHAT DO YOU DO?

Every day I work on live innovation projects and I'm trusted to come up with ideas, problem solve and fault find. Even though I'm an apprentice, I'm trusted with many important tasks and I'm treated as a valued member of the team. I help my fellow apprentices with tasks they've been set such as designing products on our Computer Aided Design (CAD) software. My colleagues ask for my opinion, views and trust that I'm becoming more of an expert as I work on each of our systems.

On a typical day, I work on my college assignments and continue my job reports for the apprenticeship. I then work in our lab, looking at CAD designs, and helping my colleagues fault find on our systems. There's a lot of variety in the role which I enjoy.



WHAT IS THE MOST EXCITING PROJECT YOU HAVE WORKED ON?

The most exciting project I have worked on so far was when I was asked to complete some mock bugging device searches which were set up for us. We had to find multiple listening devices set up in a room, and it was really interesting to see where these items could be hidden. As well as this, we had a group of dogs come in to try the searches themselves. It was fascinating to see how they could smell the scent of the test items such as mobile phones and USB sticks and track them down directly.

WHAT IS YOUR PROUDEST APPRENTICESHIP MOMENT?

The project I'm most proud of was when I worked on one of our security systems which I had to convert from one format to another. This was really difficult as the system was not intended to work with the new hardware we had to add in, but we managed to get it working efficiently and within the time frame we were set. I'm also proud of where I work. It's satisfying to know that the work I do helps our government and our teams overseas to keep our country safe and makes a real difference. I feel very valued as an apprentice here at FCDO Services, and I'm excited to see where my apprenticeship will take me!

WHICH FEMALE INSPIRES YOU AND WHY?

Marie Curie is one of the women who inspires me the most. She was a physicist and chemist, studying radiation discovering two elements during her career, as well as winning two Nobel prizes for her findings. Marie Curie inspires me because alongside her family, she campaigned for equal opportunities for women in science. Though it was difficult and she combated a lot of doubt, she pursued her dream and proved that she could be a world changing scientist.

"SUCCESS IS NOT FINAL; FAILURE IS NOT FATAL: IT IS THE COURAGE TO CONTINUE THAT COUNTS" WINSTON CHURCHILL

