

SAPPHIRE BROOKS

Apprentice Electrical Engineer
Engineering



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WHAT MADE YOU APPLY FOR AN APPRENTICESHIP?

Once I completed my Level 2 Electrical Installation qualification, I wanted to continue learning. I was looking for an opportunity where I could gain valuable knowledge and experience while starting a career that was both fulfilling and had opportunities to progress.

WHY DID YOU APPLY TO NG BAILEY?

I was impressed by the NG Bailey ethos and their commitment to making long-lasting positive impacts, environmentally and socially. I was also highly motivated by their continued recognition of supporting women in the workplace.

WHAT WOULD YOUR TOP TIP BE FOR ANYONE APPLYING FOR AN APPRENTICESHIP ROLE?

My biggest tip is to be prepared and make sure you have enough time to fill out your application properly and prep for your interview. Even if you get nervous during your interview, just knowing that you have planned well can really calm you down.

WHAT ARE THE ADVANTAGES OF BEING AN APPRENTICE?

Being in the workplace from the start allows you to build working relationships early in your career. So if you ever need guidance or information, either during your apprentice or once you've qualified, you already have a great network of professionals with industry knowledge.

WHAT HAS BEEN THE BIGGEST CHALLENGE IN YOUR APPRENTICESHIP?

Sometimes I'm the only woman on site, which was a bit daunting at times, especially when I first started. However, as the role provides constant challenges, I am continuously pushing the boundaries of my comfort zone and it feels like my confidence has skyrocketed.

WHAT PART OF THE ROLE GIVES YOU THE MOST PERSONAL SATISFACTION?

I love that I'm working on infrastructure in London. As a native Londoner, it's really exciting when I go past a building and I'm able to say, "I helped to build that."

WHAT DOES A TYPICAL DAY LOOK LIKE?

Typically it starts with a briefing, going over safety requirements and our tasks for the day on site. Throughout the day I will complete varied tasks, while checking in with my supervisor.

WHAT ARE YOU MOST LOOKING FORWARD TO IN YOUR APPRENTICESHIP?

I'm really looking forward to the career opportunities after my apprenticeship. I have just finished my design and planning unit in college and it's given me a better understanding of the workings behind the scenes. Apprenticeships offer a really interesting insight into the variety of roles that are available and I can't wait to see which direction suits me.

WHAT IS YOUR GREATEST ACHIEVEMENT AS PART OF THE APPRENTICESHIP?

My greatest achievement so far is passing my science exam. I love science but maths was never my favourite subject, so sometimes it was difficult to stay motivated. I really wanted to do well and by staying positive, I was able to pass with flying colours.

PLEASE CAN YOU OUTLINE ANY ADDITIONAL ASPECTS YOU ARE INVOLVED IN AS PART OF THE APPRENTICESHIP.

During my apprenticeship I have become a social values champion, which is a role I love! I attend school events and give talks to students on what it's like to be an apprentice.

When I get the opportunity, I also like to attend project health and safety meetings. I think it's an important issue and find it interesting to share ideas and work collaboratively with different contractors on site.