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IT Services



"I WANTED TO BE ABLE TO LEARN AND DEVELOP MY SKILLS IN A REAL WORKING ENVIRONMENT."

WHAT MADE YOU APPLY FOR AN APPRENTICESHIP?

I enjoy studying and learning new things, but I wanted to be able to apply that knowledge to more practical situations. I also wanted to be able to learn and develop my skills in a real working environment.

WHY DID YOU APPLY TO NG BAILEY?

I applied to NG Bailey because of the wide range of customers the business works with, which I hoped would give me the opportunity to be involved in a variety of projects. I heard really positive reviews about the company and their apprenticeship programmes, and I like that they have a nationwide presence but still feel like a family firm.

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

To anyone applying for an apprenticeship, don't undersell yourself! Anything you have done – whether it directly relates to the role or not – make sure you discuss it at your interview and in your application. The likelihood is you will be able to apply the skills gained from your experiences to your apprenticeship.

WHAT ARE THE ADVANTAGES OF BEING AN APPRENTICE?

For me it is the work experience gained whilst studying for a degree in a highly regarded university and being able to apply this knowledge to my practical working tasks. I work with a supportive team of people who all have different skills and knowledge that they are willing to share, and as an apprentice, I have the opportunity to ask for help from experts in my team whenever I find something difficult.

WHAT HAS BEEN THE BIGGEST CHALLENGE IN YOUR APPRENTICESHIP?

The biggest challenge so far has been the transition from school to work. Although I have had part time jobs in the past, a full-time job comes with lots of different challenges to full-time education. Aspects of the role – such as the commute, business requirements and customer communication – are new to me. However, these have provided me with opportunities for learning and development, allowing me to become more independent.

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

I would say this is being able to transfer the information I have learnt from the studying aspect of my apprenticeship into my operational activity. I like to see the knowledge I have gained being put into a practical context.

WHAT DOES A TYPICAL DAY LOOK LIKE?

No two days are the same in my role. Some days I am working in the pre-stage labs, undertaking tasks such as configuring network intermediary and end devices. Other days, I am carrying out work for projects I am involved in, current examples include the Royal Mail and Sainsbury's sites.

WHAT ARE YOU MOST LOOKING FORWARD TO IN YOUR APPRENTICESHIP?

I am looking forward to graduating from university with a degree in Digital and Technology Solutions, as well as gaining all the skills and knowledge required to carry out my role.

WHAT IS YOUR GREATEST ACHIEVEMENT AS PART OF THE APPRENTICESHIP?

Starting my first full time job and overcoming the challenges associated with it, whilst also starting university has been a great personal achievement for me.