APPRENTICE PROFILE

Sam Lovett

Apprentice
Basingstoke

What made you decide to apply for an Apprenticeship?

I had been out of college and in full time work for 2 years before I really considered Engineering as a career. I was always interested in Engineering, but wasn't sure the best way to get into it as I didn't have the A-level requirements to study at university, and hadn't been given enough information about it during my education. An Apprenticeship offered me the chance to study one day a week alongside practical work, allowing me to put what I've learnt in the classroom into practise, all whilst earning a living and without gaining debt from my studies.

What sort of projects do you get involved with?

To date I've worked on a variety of projects, but the one I've been most involved with has been on Vehicle Restraint Systems for Wokingham Borough Council. This work has involved going out on site onto live roads and taking measurements, observations and notes about the safety barriers at the side of the road. The project has also involved writing risk assessments, technical notes based on our findings, and will shortly involve detailed design!

What do you like best about your apprenticeship with WSP?

There are so many things I enjoy, but the best thing about my apprenticeship is the satisfaction I get from my work. I'm in a job which I love waking up for every day, I'm being paid to study one day a week and get a qualification, and I've been given a lot of responsibility and involvement so early on. At WSP you really feel as though you are one of the team, and not simply 'The Apprentice'.

What are you looking forward to / what is your next career step?

I'm looking forward to completing my Diploma and moving onto studying at University. In the long term, I'm most excited to work on large scale projects overseas with the company and experience another culture, and to learn about how different cultures tackle engineering challenges differently.