

CASE STUDY: Balfour Beatty



MEET OUR APPRENTICES Christopher Miller

Job title	Technical Trainee
Location	Hillington, Glasgow
Apprenticeship type	Electrical
Qualification/education level	HNC Electrical & Electronic Engineering
Date joined	August 2013



Please provide a brief summary of your role, the project you are supporting and the type of work you undertake on a daily basis:

I am a Technical Trainee in my first year at Balfour Beatty, based in the Huntly Road office.

So far I have worked in two departments. In Engineering I worked for Dougie Campbell, Project Manager, on the Abbey Wood 33kV Substation Switchboard. This included a whole range of things from sourcing material to making sure troughing sizes were accurate so that they could accommodate the cables being put through the trough.

Following six months in Engineering I am now working for Chris Devine and John Murray, Senior Quantity Surveyors. Most of the time I am working on Chris's job: SSR 3A. This entails having to make sure all weekly timesheets are uploaded and accurate, managing costs and updating cash flows. With all the different tasks I am always learning and kept up to date with what is going on.

What attracted you to Balfour Beatty?

I was attracted to Balfour Beatty due to the vast size and prestige of the company. Knowing I would get the chance to gain great experience working on and off site excited me as well as, hopefully, getting the chance to work abroad. All these factors, along with the fact I knew it would help develop my skills, attracted me to Balfour Beatty.

What development opportunities have you been given whilst in your role?

Working at Balfour Beatty has given me the opportunity to travel down to London for a training course. This was a great experience for me and I know that there are lots more opportunities here and abroad that Balfour Beatty will support me in.

As well as trips away for training, Balfour Beatty has helped me develop my skill set by funding my enrolment in college, allowing me to learn whilst I am on the job.

How has Balfour Beatty played a role in your long term career goals?

When I left high school my aim was to become a Quantity Surveyor. Joining Balfour Beatty has been a major boost for my career goals as I am getting first-hand experience working with two QSs, learning the ins and outs of just what quantity surveying is all about.

What has been your highlight so far at Balfour Beatty?

My trip down to London to meet up with all the other new starts from 2013 has been my highlight so far as I got to meet with so many others to find out how they were getting on with their first year.

What one thing surprised you most about working for Balfour Beatty?

I was pleasantly surprised with the amount of training that I have been offered with Balfour Beatty. London was the first event but already I have two training courses to attend in 2014 and with day-to-day tips from everyone around you, you are always learning.

What are the top three tips/pieces of advice you would give to anyone thinking of applying to Balfour Beatty?

1. Make sure it is what you want to do. If you fancy doing it, then go for it.
2. Don't be restricted to just one area. Being able to work in different departments will increase your knowledge and give you great experience.

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3. If you are unsure, just ask. Everyone at Balfour Beatty will be helpful and have a great understanding about the company.