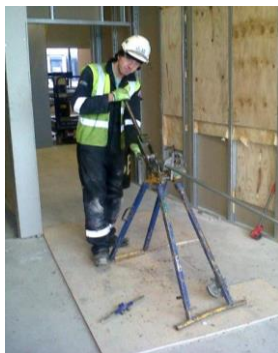


## CASE STUDY: Balfour Beatty



### MEET OUR APPRENTICES Liam McCallan

Job title	Apprentice Electrician
Location	North east England
Apprenticeship type	Electrical
Qualification/education level	Studying electrical installation at Newcastle College
Date joined	October 2010



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

During my apprenticeship I have worked on many projects and been fortunate to travel and gain experience around the country. Projects such as a wind farm in Northumberland, schools in Blackburn and Sheffield, hospitals in Newcastle and Stoke, universities in Bradford and Leeds and a multi-million pound Rolls Royce factory in Washington as well as various smaller projects throughout the north of England. Throughout these projects I have worked on the installation of machinery, small power, lighting and emergency lighting, with each job being a challenge with different time schedules and specifications.

I have installed containment which covers metal and plastic conduit, trunking, basket and tray plate. I have also learnt how to install wiring systems by following site drawings using various cable type and sizes and the theory on how it works and is distributed.

#### **What attracted you to Balfour Beatty?**

When I left school I was focused on becoming an electrician and enrolled as a student at Newcastle College studying electrical installation. Knowing about Balfour Beatty and the areas they cover I followed their website looking for when they were enrolling. As Balfour Beatty is such a large organisation I knew I could continue to develop throughout my apprenticeship and also have the opportunity to progress when qualified in a world leading Construction Company.

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

As it is early in my career development opportunities have been linked with me gaining the qualifications required to be an electrician. My ambitions for the future are to gain qualifications in testing and inspection and my 17th edition. Looking further ahead I would like to gain the relevant qualifications to progress to become an engineer.

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

I have really enjoyed my apprenticeship with Balfour Beatty due to the wide range of installation I have covered and the diversity of sites I have worked on. This has played a major part in my future goals as I realise that the company does not just offer an apprenticeship it offers opportunities to develop. I would like to become an engineer in the future and hopefully Balfour Beatty can help me pursue this and secure me a job for life.

#### **What has been your highlight so far at Balfour Beatty?**

I have really enjoyed having the opportunity to work on different sites throughout the UK and meeting new people from different regions and sectors of the company. Working with and alongside people from different trades has helped me develop my communication skills and given me a broader understanding of how the company works from top level of management to the installation at ground level.

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

The support you get. I wasn't expecting to have the level of support and quality of training I received as an apprentice. The apprentice reviews were a huge help because any problems are resolved and any help you need to develop yourself is given. This gives you confidence to come forward for help.

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

1. Try and gain relevant qualifications for the job you are applying for to make yourself more employable
2. Research the company to give you a greater understanding of the role you are applying for.
3. Be flexible and prepare to travel around the country it offers great opportunities to meet different people and see different trades.