

## CASE STUDY: Balfour Beatty



## MEET OUR APPRENTICES

### Shane Hood

Job title	Apprentice Site Supervisor
Location	Midlands
Apprenticeship type	Construction
Qualification/education level	NVQ Level 3 in Trowel Occupations (bricklaying)
Date joined	August 2011



**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 so far, I have helped on 4 different school projects in the Midlands. I am currently working on a school project in Stoke called Abbey Hill. I have been on this site for just over a year now. I started on site when the piling works were just starting and we are currently starting to plaster and install services in the building, so I have seen the project come out of the ground from nothing to a nearly completed building. That is one of the enjoyments of my job.

On a daily basis my work activities can vary. I'm currently undertaking site inductions for this project, I feel this is a very important job on site as you get to meet the guys who are working on site but most importantly you get to show the lads how the site is run, and what is expected in terms of health and safety on site. Every day is different on site which is good, one day I could be supervising the window fitters installing windows, the next day I could be checking setting out of internal walls and the next day sitting in on progress meetings with contractors on

site. As well as supervising the guys on site I also help the engineers on site when setting out and checking levels. I am involved in co-ordination meeting, which is very important on site so all contractors know what's happening on a daily basis which helps progress on installation and minimises contractor clashes in works.

As well as managing packages on site and supervising works, I am also studying for my Extended Diploma in Construction and the Build Environment at Derby College which is giving me a wide range of construction related knowledge that helps me on site. Within my course I am also studying for my NVQ Level 3 in Site Supervision, where I collect evidence from site to achieve different units.

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

I joined Balfour Beatty because they are such a large diverse construction company and a well-known name in construction. I had also been told they spend a lot of time and effort in training up staff in the correct way. By means of sending trainees on the relevant training courses for the job role being undertaken and investing time into each trainee.

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

Working at a company like Balfour Beatty, I have been given many development training for example the opportunity to undertake my 5 day SMSTS (Site Management Safety Training Scheme) this course has given me the chance to meet the ever-increasing demand for evidence of sound health and safety management on site. I have also attended other courses such as PASMA which has increased my knowledge of mobile scaffold towers and how they should be built, used and certificated.

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

During my apprenticeship at Balfour Beatty I have worked on various projects and with many people this has allowed me to see possible future career options across the company, I have spoken to many experienced Site Managers and Project Managers about their experiences, this has helped me decide that I now want to become a Project Manager, as I when I started my role I wanted to be a Site Manager, but I now feel that with the support and training Balfour Beatty are willing to offer me I want to become a Project Manager.

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

I have had many highlights so far in my career within Balfour Beatty, but one that sticks in my mind is when we achieved handover of the school project I was working on in Derby, this is a highlight to me because I can stand and look at the building knowing that I have helped in the progression and completion of the project and see the building come from the ground to been completed.

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

One thing that has surprised me about Balfour Beatty is the amount of support that everyone gives you. Everyone within Balfour Beatty, always make the time to discuss any problems I have whether it be college, a problem on site or any issues.

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

1. Don't be too worried to ask question no matter how important you feel it is as someone will help you decide what's right for you.
2. Don't be scared to change your mind in the job role, if you feel you would be best suited doing something else.
3. Don't HESITATE to apply for a job within Balfour Beatty as you will be making the right choice for your career.