

BEN HAIG

Apprentice Design Engineer Engineering, Leeds





"I HAVE GAINED EXPERIENCE WHILE BEING SUPPORTED BY SOME OF THE BEST INDUSTRY EXPERTS ALONG THE WAY."

WHAT MADE YOU APPLY FOR AN APPRENTICESHIP?

I understood the importance of gaining an academic qualification as well as practical work experience, which is what an apprenticeship offers.

WHAT ARE THE ADVANTAGES OF BEING AN APPRENTICE?

Undertaking an apprenticeship has provided me with the opportunity to earn a wage while progressing in my career.

WHY DID YOU APPLY TO NG BAILEY?

I applied for an apprenticeship with NG Bailey because they are an industry-leading company with an award-winning programme. The commitment they show towards their apprentices, providing plenty of support to allow for successful careers, is great.

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

It is important to research the company you are considering applying to because this can give you a huge insight into what they are looking for and if it is suitable for you. For example, in just 10 minutes of research, you could find out that NG Bailey's main values are Passion, Integrity, Responsibility, and Excellence and use this in your application.

WHAT ARE THE ADVANTAGES OF BEING AN APPRENTICE?

The biggest advantage is learning on the job. I have gained experience while being supported by some of the best industry experts along the way.

WHAT HAS BEEN THE BIGGEST CHALLENGE IN YOUR APPRENTICESHIP?

Since starting my apprenticeship, my biggest challenge has been the transition from part-time work to a daily full-time work role. This resulted in significant changes in my lifestyle, and, at first, adapting to these was tough. However, with plenty of support from everyone at NG Bailey and a little bit of time to adjust, I wouldn't know any different now.

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

As a design engineer, seeing in real life what I have designed on a computer gives me the most satisfaction. Being able to witness something I have designed in person gives me a huge feeling of accomplishment.

WHAT DOES A TYPICAL DAY LOOK LIKE?

Every day varies as a design engineer because even if I'm only focusing on one project, I'm undertaking different tasks with new ways of working. Whether this is using different software, working on different services, or shadowing engineers, it keeps my role interesting and rewarding because I'm constantly facing new challenges and working out ways to overcome them.

WHAT ARE YOU MOST LOOKING FORWARD TO IN YOUR APPRENTICESHIP?

I'm looking forward to finishing my course at college because this will allow me to progress within my apprenticeship, and study further to allow me to develop my career as much as possible.

WHAT IS YOUR GREATEST ACHIEVEMENT AS PART OF THE APPRENTICESHIP?

Within my first year, I have expanded my knowledge in such a wide range of areas, from fully understanding the role of a design engineer to different building services and how to use different design software.