

ALICE **LEVEL 3 ERF MAINTENANCE** **(CONTROL & INSTRUMENTATION) APPRENTICE**



What does an average day look like for you?

I'm in the first year of my apprenticeship. On an average day I wake up early as I have a 1.5hr train journey before getting to SETA. I will be at SETA for a full academic year - 40 weeks. During which I will be doing both practical and theory lessons. Doing an 8 - 4 day isn't as bad as I thought it would be and has given me an insight into what it is like to be working all day. In the lessons you learn so much whether that is through theory or getting your hands dirty in the workshop. Breaks are spent with the friends I have made in my time here and catching up with the ones on day release on BTEC day.

Why did you choose to do an apprenticeship?

I would recommend an apprenticeship because you get the best of both worlds. You will be gaining years of work experience out on site whilst learning your role. You get to meet new people not only in your company, but also other apprentices whilst at your college/training provider. All while being paid to learn and expand your knowledge. It allows you to get a step on the ladder to developing your chosen career.

What personal qualities do you think are important to do your job?

The personal qualities that I think are important for my job would be logical thinking, perseverance and a keen eye for engineering electronics.

Why did you choose to be an Apprentice Council Rep?

I became a representative because I wanted to make a positive impact on other apprentices as well as being more confident with taking on a leadership role. I thought it would be a good for my communication skills with people that I don't know, as well as boosting my confidence in getting my ideas across without being afraid of judgement.

What was your route in to engineering?

I did 5 weeks of work experience with my company whilst at college as part of my T-Level engineering course. Whilst out on the Veolia site I got fully invested into how they worked and what all their systems do. I could see myself doing something like that as a career. So when I found out they had an apprenticeship vacancy for September I got ahead and applied. Since I was young I've always been interested in engineering and constantly making new things that could make life easier, like pulleys and other helpful mechanisms, so it seemed like the right choice for me.

What has been your personal highlight so far?

My personal highlights so far would probably have to be learning new skills, such as welding, and building upon the old skills I've gained from previous assignments. Everyday this is all adding to my understanding of my job.

Another big highlight for me would definitely be meeting new people who are all training to be engineers at SETA. I really love getting to know and learn about others from across the different engineering sectors.

