

CIARA RUANE-FOUNTAIN

QUANTITY SURVEYING DEGREE APPRENTICE

BURMOR CONSTRUCTION



WHY DID YOU DO AN APPRENTICESHIP?

The apprenticeship that I am studying for allows me to gain on the job experience while obtaining an honours degree and becoming a chartered member of the CIOB all in one package.

WHAT LEVEL APPRENTICESHIP ARE YOU STUDYING?

Currently I'm studying at level 4, but as this is a degree apprenticeship it will also take me through levels 5 and 6.



HOW HAS STUDYING AN APPRENTICESHIP PREPARED YOU FOR THE WORLD OF WORK?

Prior to starting this apprenticeship, I had around 10 year of prior work experience, so wouldn't necessarily agree that my apprenticeship has prepared me for work. However, the university provides a lot of support and information by way of personal apprenticeship coaches, study coaches and a careers team to help those who are early in their working or generally looking to become more employable.

DID YOU ENJOY YOUR APPRENTICESHIP?

Yes, it has been a great opportunity to meet people and make new friends. We all have such a broad experience of the industry, and this helps with our learning massively. Our lecturers have experience of industry, teaching and research which brings a real all-round approach to the course.

HOW WAS THE PROCESS OF APPLYING/ STARTING AN APPRENTICESHIP?

The process of applying was easy and straightforward. I'd urge anybody to investigate a degree apprenticeship if they are interested in further training. I don't have any A-levels, but this hasn't been a barrier at all in applying or being accepted onto the course, which often surprises people.

Balancing work, study and life can be tricky and often quite busy but the long-term benefits of having this qualification and chartership are worth the juggling now for the future benefits for me and my family.

