Sophie –Technical Trainee

Level 1- Mechanical & Electrical apprentice



Based at Swindon Sewage Treatment Works on Barnfield Road, I am currently studying towards my Level 3 Mechanical and Electrical Engineering with Basingstoke College of Technology. Where I spend one day a week doing virtual online lessons and spend the other four days in the workplace carrying out on the job training across Thames Water sites with a team of other mechanical and electrical engineers.

Ever since I was younger I always grew up working outside with my dad, working with tools and carrying out hands on tasks. Therefore when I heard about the apprenticeship with Thames I took the opportunity to start what could be my life time career. Although I knew a few things when starting Thames water I certainly did not know a lot.

When stepping into the workshop on my first day on the Thames Water site, I was extremely nervous. However I soon discovered what an amazing team and mentor I am surrounded by that guide, encourage and support you through the apprenticeship from College work to hands on experiences. I hope to stay with Thames in the future and build on my skills and knowledge to help provide life essential services to others.

Why did you choose to apply for a Thames Water apprenticeship?

I always knew I wanted a hands on apprenticeship and when I was told by a close family member Thames Water were taking on apprentices I saw this as my perfect opportunity to look for my future career. However before I applied for Thames I was quite naive on the essential roles Thames carried out. I knew Thames water was a big company and wanted to learn as much as possible about the inside of the company not just it's name. As I soon learnt through my interviews and having discussions with other Thames employees, no two days are the same and that excited me. As this would give me the chance to learn something new everyday and broaden my horizons.

If you're interested in doing an apprenticeship yourself, please contact: ioinourfamily@thameswater.co.uk

Can you tell me about your life and career journey?

When I joined Thames I had just left secondary school. I knew from the very beginning of people talking about College that I did not want to be stuck in a classroom full time and wanted to step into the world of unknown.