



Emily Plummer Phase Two Apprentice

Emily, 19, started the engineering apprenticeship in September 2012 with Defence Equipment and Support (DE&S) at MOD Abbey Wood. She joined after completing the first year of A-Levels at St Brendan's College.

Why Emily chose this apprenticeship

Emily looked at lots of different options before choosing to do an apprenticeship. Her older brother completed the apprenticeship a few years before and encouraged her to join as he really enjoyed the apprenticeship and gained a lot from it.

There was also the incentive of learning whilst earning and not having student debts.

Emily's experience as an apprentice

I joined when I was 17 years old so I was one of the younger ones of the group. I was slightly nervous about joining as I knew engineering could be a male dominated area but I didn't find it an issue, everyone was easy to get along with and my gender didn't matter.

I am currently in the second year of the apprenticeship during which I have to complete placements and the first year of our HNC. It can be demanding at times but plenty of support is provided by the line managers, teachers and supervisors.

My current placement is in submarine production which I am enjoying, I have been able to get onto a couple of submarines and have been tasked with doing my own trial.



In future placements I am hoping to look around the different operating centres to find out which area I am most interested in before deciding where I want to go for my final placement. Eventually I hope to go on and get a degree (which will hopefully be sponsored by DE&S).

I have really enjoyed my apprenticeship so far and have met lots of different people from different backgrounds. It gave me a new circle of friends to go out with outside of my other social groups.

Benefits for DE&S

DE&S Has been running the scheme in its current format since 2004 and have a dedicated support team who have successfully trained upwards of 500 apprentices. Ex apprentices are now employed in all areas of our business of equipping the United Kingdom's armed forces. DE&S recognises the benefit and value apprenticeships bring to the individual and the business and see them as a key component in the strategy to ensure they have the highly skilled people we need to take us forward in the ever changing world of defence.

Want to know more?

Use the following link and download the PDF File.

www.gov.uk/government/publications/defence-equipment-and-support-advanced-apprenticeships