

Niamh Morgan

City & Guilds Group Bursary Learner Case Study

Age: 16

Started at Gen2: 2018

Programme: City & Guilds Group Bursary - Access to Apprenticeship Programme

Why did you apply for the City & Guilds Bursary programme?

Throughout school I knew I wanted to become an engineer. I was particularly interested in electrical engineering and decided to apply to Gen2. Unfortunately I wasn't successful in my application. I heard about the City & Guilds bursary programme and it sounded like a great way to start my career and gain the additional support for maths which I needed for a full apprenticeship. I applied and was delighted to be accepted onto the programme.

What did you do when you first arrived?

I started in 2018 with an induction into the access programme and was taught about health and safety in the workshop. After the induction we started work in the engineering workshop on a six week bench fitting programme. Bench fitting teaches you how to use tools and provides a basic understanding of engineering – I learned to use hacksaws, height gauges, radius gauges etc. I really enjoyed the bench fitting and know I will use the skills I learned for years to come.

How has your programme progressed?

After the bench fitting we were set a task to develop three project pieces. The projects were to create a soft jaw, a bevel square and a drill drift. To create the project pieces you are taught how to work with different metals and use equipment such as saws, files and pillar drills.

After our project pieces we spent several weeks in the pipefitting area and learned how to use more equipment such as pipe benders which allow you to add a thread to the end of pipe. We continued to carry out work in the classroom before moving onto welding and electrical engineering which I really enjoyed.

During my access programme I worked voluntary with a local electrical firm to gain some real work experience. I also worked part time at a local bar to help support myself whilst studying.

What have you done on completion of your programme?

Whilst I was studying I applied again to Gen2. I passed my aptitude test and was offered an interview with Sellafield Ltd. During the interview I could talk with confidence about engineering, showing practical examples of my work and explain why I particularly wanted to pursue electrical engineering. I was delighted to find out I had been selected and have now started my 4 year electrical engineering apprenticeship with Sellafield Ltd.

How has the City & Guilds Group Bursary helped you?

The City & Guilds Group bursary allow me to start my engineering career. The programme provided me with the skills and knowledge I needed in engineering and provide me with the confidence to excel in my apprenticeship interviews.

Without the bursary programme I would not be where I am today - I am really grateful to the City & Guilds Group for giving me the opportunity to help gain the career I love.



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