

# A Day in the Life

## Trainee Quantity Surveyor



My name is Luke. I am currently attending Nottingham Trent University where I am completing a degree in Quantity Surveying and Construction Commercial Management. I am in my 2nd year.

I decided to join B+K following the successful completion of my Level 3 Diploma in Construction & the Built Environment, where I was made aware of the excellent and professional reputation of Bowmer and Kirkland. I attended an open evening and was inspired by talks from both the Directors and current Trainees of the company.

The best parts of my job are having the opportunities to work within a diverse environment, allowing me to gain on the job experience whilst progressing my academic studies through university.

**A typical day for me starts at 8.00am** with looking through my emails and sending responses. I then meet with the Senior Quantity Surveyor to discuss my daily tasks and then prioritise the duties to ensure deadlines are achieved.



**9.00am:** After our catch-up, I start working. This could be assisting with the procurement of works packages, completing subcontractor's payments or attending progress meetings.

**11.00am:** I try to get the most urgent things done before breaking for lunch. I

also find this time a good opportunity to raise any queries / questions I have with my manager. This helps me to gain a more in-depth understanding of particular subject areas and ensures I'm able to complete the task properly.

**1.00pm:** After lunch, I look at what's left to do and aim to finish these before the end of the day. Included in this, is reviewing any new emails received, actioning them as required.

**3.00pm:** I may visit site to see how works have progressed. This involves marking up drawings, taking general photos and recording the different stages of construction. This helps me to compare details shown on the drawings to what's been constructed. A member of the management team will accompany me, explaining the methods of construction, benefits of completing the works in a specific way and how we would overcome any disruptions.

**A typical day for me finishes at 5.30pm.** I'll review completed tasks and record what requires further work / completing over the coming days.

Working as a Trainee can be demanding. Prioritising work whilst ensuring university deadlines are met is also challenging. However during my first year with B&K I've gained invaluable industry experience and with the support of the company, I've achieved good grades. I would therefore, strongly recommend a traineeship with Bowmer and Kirkland.