

Life as an apprentice

Meet Ellie, a digital apprentice at Babcock International

Rediscovering what I wanted to do

My plan had always been to go to university to study maths. I went through the entire University/UCAS process and was accepted into my top two universities. When the country went into a national lockdown in 2020, I spent my time discovering different career options, which led me to the apprenticeship route. I hadn't previously been interested in an apprenticeship. I started searching for technology/analysis-based apprenticeships in and around my area and stumbled upon the course I am now doing. I am currently in my second year of the apprenticeship and I'm about to begin my first placement in a different area of the business.



Alt text: Headshot of Ellie

What do you do?

I specialise in Data Analytics, so I work with lots of numbers and statistics and turn them into graphs and useful conclusions that anyone can understand.

Study days

My training provider is the University of the West of England (UWE) in Bristol. However, the majority of the content is delivered at University Centre Weston (UCW). I attend UCW once a week. I then spend the rest of the week at my day job at Babcock International. Due to the pandemic, most of the studying was online. I have now returned to UCW in person, which is brilliant as I find the quality of learning much greater. It's much easier to ask questions and speak to lecturer's face to face. I meticulously plan my work and study to get a good balance and to stop myself from missing any deadlines!

Visit apprenticeships.gov.uk to find out more.

My ultimate goal

My two passions are listening to a lot of music, and I love going to concerts and festivals. I enjoy reading/writing album reviews and analysing my music listening habits - very nerdy, I know! My ultimate goal is to work as a Data Analyst/Data Scientist for a music related company like Spotify.

What do you enjoy in your spare time?

I do like to watch a lot of films, and I own a lot of books about films! I'm a big fan of British sitcoms, and I seem to end up rewatching the same shows instead of starting something new - very much a creature of habit. I enjoy walking my dog Ted, a 1-year-old Staffy cross, and spending time with friends and family.

Be brave

Apprenticeships can still be under represented and under promoted in many secondary/sixth forms. I think it takes a lot of bravery to decide to do something that may not necessarily be what your institution is telling you to do. Be brave and apply for everything that you like the look of. There are no limits to how many courses you can apply for, so push yourself. I applied for a lot at the same time and received a few rejections, but I kept persevering and luckily it paid off. I didn't think for a second that I'd be doing what I am today. As long as you believe your applications are of good quality and you possess the adequate requirements for the job, then go for it. You never know what might happen!



Alt text: Babcock international logo