

Introduction

Hi my name is Tina and I have worked for Priddy for over a year.

I am the Apprentice Coordinator; my role is to ensure the Apprentices are supported during their Apprenticeship and for a year afterwards.



Image: Tina Blunsdon, Apprentice Coordinator, Priddy Engineering

How did you get started in your career?

I have worked within education for many years and was asked to work for Priddy to support the Apprentices.

Can you outline a typical work day?

- I have 1:1 mentoring sessions with an Apprentice to check they are progressing towards their qualifications.
- I have meetings with the Apprentice's supervisors and College's.
- I also set up reviews meetings which happen every three months, and observations which are completed once a year.
- General administration work
- Answering the office phones

What do you enjoy most about your job?

Watching the Apprentices grow in confidence/skills and become qualified.

What skills are important for anyone wishing to start in your profession?

To be able to listen and have initiative.

What main personal attributes do you think is important for your type of job?

To have a very calm manner, forward thinking and to be able to work independently.

Do you have any tips or suggestions on how young people and adults can enter your industry?

It would be beneficial to understand how education works as you have to deal with colleges and have an understanding what it is like for students working and studying at the same time.

Be flexible, as I often step in to help the admin team when they are off sick or on holiday.

What career progression opportunities are available in your business/sector?

As the business grows my responsibility will also grow, which will enable me to progress to a higher level within the company.

Why is it important for your sector to attract and train young people and new entrants?

Not a lot of young people know that there are a lot of different jobs within the construction industry that are suitable for men and women. Priddy Engineering are always looking for bright, energetic and keen people who want to have a career, for example:

- Finance Clerk
- Accountant
- Personal assistant to the director
- Secretary
- Administrator
- Engineer
- Quantitative surveyor
- On site, Mechanical or Electrical installer
- Draftsman
- Estimator

What trends do you predict for your industry within the next 10 years? E.g. is it a growing market requiring more young entrants

The industry is always going to be very busy and there is always going to be a need to build buildings. The area that is needed to be developed is in people, as there is a huge shortfall of skilled people in all areas of the construction industry. We at Priddy are doing our best by taking on a lot of Apprentices to develop our own skilled people.

General words of advice

There are a lot of opportunities within the Industry, ask to have a work placement or even a visit a company to understand what the construction industry is all about.

You could have a fantastic career within this industry, all you have to do is look to see what sort of career you would like.

Having an Apprenticeship is also the best way to develop within this industry. You not only earn money but build up many different skills during the Apprenticeship which you do not gain whilst on a degree. From experience the people who have an Apprenticeship move forward within their careers more quickly than the people who come with a degree.

Further contact/information

If you would like to know more about apprenticeships Priddy can offer, email Tina, tina.blunsdon@priddy.uk.com

Take a look at our website <https://www.priddy.uk.com/> to know more about Priddy.

Search 'National Careers Service' online to view any of our hundreds of job profiles.