

Mentoring and Work Experience at West Midlands UTC



Gurkeitan Barring—Year 11

After being welcomed with a wonderful mentor during first few months at West Midlands UTC, my view on my future has changed several thousand times. Jo Jones has provided me with the knowledge about the construction industry from when we first met till now. Jo has also helped me with obtaining work experience on three separate occasions. Not only did each experience benefit me in deciding my future plans, the work experience helped develop my general knowledge about construction.

Jo has also sent continuous information about various construction projects that have taken place over time giving me an insight into the construction industry. The most significant lesson of the construction past, present and future would have to be when she introduced me to the Chernobyl's Mega Tomb project. From that, I learnt about the different concepts that are put into play during

Jo Jones—BSD

As a mentor to Keitan I feel privileged to have been asked by West Midlands UTC to provide support and advice to help steer him in the right career path to what is essentially a wonderful industry.

Being a mentor is not at all time consuming but is personally rewarding and invaluable to my mentee. Our communications are conducted largely through email and this means Keitan is receiving bona fide relevant advice from someone who lives in the industry day in, day out.

My contacts within the industry means that I am able to facilitate work experience placements for Keitan that would not normally be available to him otherwise.

Businesses have welcomed the opportunity to work with Keitan and I have successfully placed him within three high profile multi-disciplinary practices in Birmingham.

All three businesses feel a responsibility to welcome students, like Keitan, into the fold and in turn have presented a greater real-world



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