

BTEC CONSTRUCTION

#BUILTBYBTEC



Name: Sinead Burke

Job Title: Quantity Surveyor, PH Plasterers Ltd

BTEC studied: BTEC Level 3 National in Construction and the Built Environment at Leeds College of Building. On course to complete Level 5 in Summer 2020.

What are your main job responsibilities? All aspects of procurement: tendering, estimating, 'take-off' (measuring from drawings), preparing bills of quantity, negotiating prices, valuations, invoicing, cost analysis and progress reports. I also conduct on-site measurement, manage the material supply and labour force, and prepare health and safety information such as risk assessments and method statements.



Why did you choose to study a BTEC in Construction?

My employer wanted me to gain qualifications alongside work. I had the option of a day-release degree, or day-release at college following the BTEC pathway (apprenticeship). **I chose BTEC and I love it** – I can study alongside working, which allows me to apply what I learn at college to work, and vice versa. **I am also earning while studying**, and I don't have to pay back any student loans at the end.

How do you think studying a BTEC helped you in your career?

Gaining the BTEC qualifications has enabled me to progress within my company and earn more, but it has also allowed me to compete at a national level and win awards which look great on my CV. In 2018 I won BTEC 'Construction Student of the Year', which I'm really proud of.

What did you enjoy most about studying a BTEC?

I like the fact that you can complete your studies alongside **working in the real world** – it really does give you an opportunity to put theory into practice on a daily basis. Conversely, you can use your experiences at work to help with college assignments.

Why would you recommend a career in construction?

There's such a **wide range of careers available** in the construction industry, which means something to suit everyone! Professional careers in construction were never something that were talked about when I was at school, so I had never even heard of surveying until I did my work experience at PH Plasterers. Five years later, I still work here! **No day is the same, and I love that my job is both office and site-based.**

To find out more about BTEC Construction qualifications, visit **quals.pearson.com/BuiltbyBTEC**