



Work Experience Case Study



SMS Electronics



SMS Electronics in Beeston houses state of the art manufacturing equipment within a 10km² workshop

Olivia Cox, aged 18, has just completed the first year of her Level 3 Extended Diploma in Engineering at our Highfields campus.

She has recently undertaken an extended work experience placement with SMS Electronics in Beeston, who work behind the scenes with partners such as TrainFX and Ramtech to fulfil their electronics manufacture needs. SMS has had its headquarters in Nottingham, UK, for almost 100 years.

Olivia found the experience worthwhile, as she explained, "It was helpful to be in a real world working environment and getting to know the people that worked there was nice."

"It helped improve my skill set in terms of interacting with others. It definitely gave me more confidence and helped improve my interpersonal skills. It also helped me progress organisational skills such as time management."

"I was constantly learning new information, such as how to use different machines and assemble items. It has helped me to understand what a working day in my future might look like."

Fola Oluwaremi, HR and Training Administrator at SMS felt that that the experience was positive, commenting, "The students placed with us performed excellently and contributed well to our business operations."

"From our perspective, we feel this placement helped with our social and corporate responsibilities and all students were given the opportunity to complete an evaluation of their work experience. All of them responded that they would recommend SMS to other students."

"The experience has helped improve our understanding of how to introduce 16 to 18-year olds into the workplace. For example, we have now introduced a leaving pack for work experience students which includes their training certificates, a recommendation letter and Employer's Assessment forms."

"It's been a pleasure having the students and we have enjoyed the opportunity to give them real world experience of the workplace. We also appreciate the feedback students have given us, which in turn will help us forge better ways forward for students coming to us for their work experience placements in future."

"We have had a good experience working with Nottingham College and we would certainly be interested in carrying this forward to continue working with them going forward."

Further to this, due to the high calibre of the presentations at the Student of the Year event, Mercedes-AMG-HPP have offered a second Nottingham College student a week's work experience in their electronics department, who will be starting with them in August 2019.