



WELL-SAFE
SOLUTIONS

CASE STUDY

Graduate Apprentice: William Banyard, Trainee Engineer - Well Engineering

William Banyard's Graduate Apprenticeship has opened doors for him both onshore and offshore.

William shares why a Graduate Apprenticeship was the right choice for him and what he's enjoyed most so far.

What made you decide that a Graduate Apprenticeship was the right route for you?

At the start of my final year at secondary school, I was doing an engineering project which replaced the Advanced Higher engineering subject available at my school. This made me realise that I learned much more effectively in a practical environment.

I found the Graduate Apprenticeship scheme online and knew at this point that this was something I wanted to do. The fact that I could combine a university degree with four years of practical work experience, all while earning a salary and without student loan debts, helped me make the decision.

Do you feel that the degree course is applicable to your current role at Well-Safe?

My course covers four separate mechanical engineering-related modules each year, which are closely related to topics in my 'day job' as a Trainee Engineer. In particular, the design and manufacturing aspect of the course has been beneficial in helping me understand tasks both offshore and when visiting vendor workshops.

Each module also includes an Individual Learning Plan (ILP), with five activity prompts enabling you to apply your knowledge from the course to your role in the workplace. The ILPs have pushed me to look outside my day-to-day role and explore the relationship between different aspects of the business.

How would you describe the support you received from the university?

As a student of Robert Gordon University (RGU), the mentors and lecturers are very supportive of the challenges which come with part-time study. I make use of weekly live support sessions, where course leaders answer any questions we may have, with assistance also provided remotely via email or forum posts online.

What's been the most rewarding aspect of your apprenticeship so far?

The main thing which comes to mind is the breadth of opportunities I've had to date.

Why Well-Safe Solutions?

- Decommissioning is a fast-growing sector with decades of international work ahead.
- We provide a direct route into the industry, giving you the chance to 'earn while you learn'.
- Accelerate your career, networking and skills development with us.



William has taken on new experiences in his role



CASE STUDY

Graduate Apprentice: William Banyard, Trainee Engineer - Well Engineering

Since I joined Well-Safe Solutions in August 2021, I have worked as a Wellsite Engineer aboard the Well-Safe Protector, visited the company’s semi-submersible rigs [the Well-Safe Guardian and Well-Safe Defender], and attended countless vendor site visits and conferences.

I’ve gained knowledge and insight from experienced colleagues by asking questions I likely wouldn’t have had the opportunity to if I’d only been at university. I’m really enjoying the experience, confidence boost and improved communications skills I am developing by being out in the workplace.

What advice would you give to anyone considering a Graduate Apprenticeship?

I would absolutely recommend it; I’m very happy with the choice I made. The workload can be challenging at times, but thankfully I receive a great level of support from Well-Safe Solutions which allows me to be flexible and keep up with my university studies.

I believe that the benefits which come with the Graduate Apprenticeship are worth the sacrifice of having a heavier workload while I study.

Why should someone consider a career in the decommissioning sector?

I didn’t know anything about the decommissioning sector before I applied for the position with Well-Safe Solutions. Now I’ve learned more about the industry, it’s evident that the global decommissioning sector will thrive for decades to come, due to the sheer number of wells to be decommissioned around the world. In the North Sea alone, over £20bn is due to be spent on decommissioning in the next decade [Offshore Energies UK data, 2023]. There’s also the feeling of satisfaction which comes from knowing that the work you’re doing is having a positive impact on the environment.



I’m really enjoying the experience, confidence boost and improved communications skills I am developing by being in the workplace.



You’re the future of well decommissioning.

We partner with schools, colleges and universities to showcase the many opportunities for career and skills development at Well-Safe Solutions.

We’re proud to be a Young Person’s Guarantee employer. We have a variety of opportunities to support 16-24 year olds with a job or apprenticeship at Foundation, Modern or Graduate level.



Well-Safe Solutions Ltd
C4 Building, Gateway Crescent,
Gateway Business Park,
Aberdeen, AB12 3GA

T: +44 (0) 1224 548 400
E: info@wellsafesolutions.com

WELLSAFESOLUTIONS.COM