

Females of the Future: International Women's Day

Meet Teri...



Teri Preston
Assistant Project Manager

What career advice would you give your younger self?

It's okay to be unsure what you want to do when you grow older. The thing is, many of us are still unsure what we want to be when we grow up and what we want may change over time!

When thinking of a career, think of things you enjoy and what you value in life (both personally and professionally). If you know what things you like to do, being able to apply these to careers or potential hiring organisations can make your decision so much easier. There's no one set route or path to take.

What did you want to be when you were at school?

I remember for a short while I wanted to be a pilot before having a swift change of mind and wanting to be a nurse. Safe to say, I never thought I'd see the day where I was on a construction site!

What do you enjoy most about your job?

One thing I've learnt about project management is that there's always something new to learn, like how we gain consent to build a road, and there will always be another challenge round the corner to get stuck into. No two days are the same!

Why did you decide to do the job you are doing?

I enjoyed the project I was working on during my apprenticeship and was learning not only about project management but was learning about the basics of construction and engineering whilst working on site.

I did a lot of shadowing like going out on site for inspections or sitting in risk management workshops, so I could gain an insight of how all the pieces come together to create a high performing team. For me, an apprenticeship provided the perfect balance between academic qualifications and on the job experience. I feel lucky that I'm working in a job I enjoy and at a company which values my work and gives me the empowerment to do my best.

What education path did you take?

I completed my A-Levels before heading to university to study Nutrition. I had a great time but felt very anxious knowing I was studying a course that I couldn't see myself doing long-term.

I began an apprenticeship at National Highways shortly after graduating where I studied project management qualifications whilst learning on the job. I was able to apply skills from uni to my apprenticeship.

