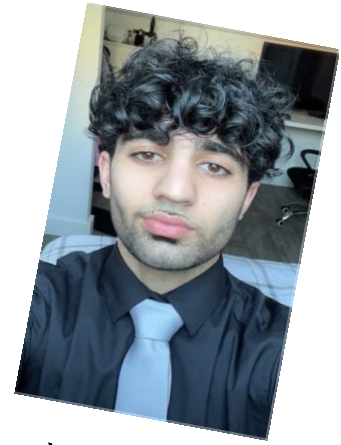


Tomorrow's Engineers Week Power Up Your Passion!

Meet Yoosuf....



Yoosuf Khan

Degree Apprentice – P&D Asset
Management

What does your role involve?

My role sits within the structures team, focusing on asset management and scheme delivery. This means identifying bridges, culverts, retaining walls, and other structures that require maintenance or renewal, then creating an action plan to keep them safe. A lot of effort goes into this, from site visits to analysing survey data, and working closely with designers and contractors to plan works. There is also a lot of project management involved.

What skills did you learn at school that help you in your current role?

The biggest takeaways weren't just academic but personal. Teamwork, problem-solving, and emotional intelligence have been vital in my role. My A-levels in Maths and Physics laid the foundation for my apprenticeship, especially in understanding loads, materials, and structural behaviour. I'd recommend building a strong STEM background, but equally, don't underestimate the value of transferable skills, as they can make the difference between being a good engineer and a great one.

What originally appealed to you about your program?

My degree apprenticeship offered me the chance to work on real projects from the whilst gaining qualifications. National Highways appealed to me because of its scale and variety of projects. I knew this environment would expose me to technical challenges early on, while also offering structured support and mentoring to accelerate my development.

What do you love about your role?

I love everything about my role! I get to see the impact of my work on everyday lives. Driving past structures I've helped manage gives me a real sense of achievement. I also enjoy the technical complexity. No two assets are the same, and each brings unique challenges. Being surrounded by experienced engineers means I'm constantly learning. It's a career that pushes me to grow both technically and personally.

What career advice would you give your younger self?

I would advise my younger self to develop my communication skills! There is a vast amount of communication involved in engineering. It's about liaising with stakeholders, consultants, project managers and senior engineers. One thing I struggled with at the start of my programme was getting my point across. It is good to learn how to be concise but also informative in a way that everyone can understand. I've learnt that being concise, confident, and audience-aware makes you far more effective.