

## **BAE Systems Newest Apprentices!**



Two Westholme students have been successful in securing **Business Management Apprenticeships** at BAE Systems from September 2016.

Both students gained places in the highly sought after work experience week at BAE Systems Warton last November for which only 2 places may be awarded per school. They thoroughly enjoyed working in the company and gained lots of valuable experience. Following that experience Alicia and Claudia were inspired to apply for the very competitive BAE Systems Apprenticeship in Business Management and were thrilled to be selected and given this fantastic opportunity.

I asked Alicia and Claudia about their reasons for choosing an apprenticeship at BAE Systems and here are their responses.....

### **Why did you choose an apprenticeship?**

- You earn while you learn.
- No debt, such as university tuition fees.
- Career progression opportunities and prospects within a prestigious company.
- Concerns about graduate employability.

### **Why did you choose BAE Systems?**

- It is a reputable company.
- Get a 'job for life' and there are many employee benefits.
- Close to home.
- Apprenticeship allows you to work in different areas of business management and you can then choose the particular area in which you would like to work.

### **What did the application process involve?**

- Online application
- Aptitude tests (like the Year 11 Morrisby psychometric tests)
- Review of application

- Interview - which involved:
  - Group exercise where you are assessed on your ability to work in a team.
  - Presentation as a project manager explaining the developmental stages of a project you have completed during your A levels.

### **What will you do during your apprenticeship?**

- During the 2 year apprenticeship we will spend 4-6 months working in each of the following areas: procurement, marketing, commercial, finance and project management. At the end of each placement we deliver a presentation about the work in each area and will be assessed on our performance.
- After the 2 years we will choose the area in which we want to work and will then have the opportunity for further study for a qualification specific to that role e.g. a degree, CIMA qualifications etc. BAE Systems will fund our studies.
- As we gain more qualifications, our pay will also increase!

### **What are your future aspirations?**

- To stay with BAE Systems and progress through the company.
- To travel and work in other BAE Systems sites in different countries around the world such as Germany and Australia.

Well done to Alicia and Claudia on gaining their apprenticeships at BAE Systems. What a wonderful opportunity and achievement. I am sure they will put all that they have learned at Westholme to good use! We wish them every success in the future.