Course Information

CITY OF WOLVERHAMPTON COLLEGE

Bricklayer Apprenticeship Level 2

Study Mode: Full Time Programme Component | Course Level: 2

Is this course right for me?

The construction sector is the driving force behind the UK economy, employing three million people and contributing 6.4% of GDP. Not only that, the construction industry is central to delivering the homes, schools, hospitals, energy and transport infrastructure our society demands.

Bricklaying is a core function within the construction sector, particularly the house building sector. The Government has a target to build significantly more new homes over the coming years and therefore the demand for bricklayers has never been higher.The range of sites and projects that bricklayers will work on include large commercial developments, new build housing, alterations, extensions and restorations.

Bricklayers lay bricks, blocks and other types of building components in mortar to construct and repair walls, foundations, partitions, arches and other structures eg chimney stacks. They might also refurbish brickwork and masonry on restoration projects. A bricklayer may work one-on-one or on larger jobs where their bricklaying group (gang) may work on a particular section of a building alongside other bricklaying gangs as well as other trades.

Entry Requirements

Determined by employer

What will I learn?

CORE KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS AND BEHAVIOUR REQUIREMENTS

KNOWLEDGE

Apprentices will develop knowledge of:

Health and safety: Health and safety hazards, current regulations and legislation including COSHH/risk assessments and understanding the importance of method statements. Codes of practice and safe working practices, including asbestos awareness and correct use of personal protective equipment (PPE).

Customer service: The principles of high-quality customer service. Establishing the needs of others (colleagues, customers and other stakeholders. Respecting the working environment including customers' properties, impact on other trades and the project. Gaining and keeping a valued reputation in industry with clients, colleagues and industry representatives such as suppliers and manufacturers.

Communication: Different communication methods. How to communicate in a clear, articulate and appropriate manner. How to adapt communication style to different situations.

Buildings: Different eras, types of construction methods, insulation considerations, sustainability, facilities management, fire, moisture and air protection. Fireplaces and chimneys. Damp proof courses and the use of brick ties. Awareness of the location of trees and services, and their impact on foundation types.

Energy efficiency: The importance and considerations of thermal qualities, airtightness and ventilation to buildings.

Materials: Types of materials, their uses and their value. Types of bonds and their use. Concrete and drainage. Cost awareness and environmental considerations/waste awareness e.g. surface water management and recycling.

Alternative construction techniques: Modern methods of construction. Rapid build technology. Alternative block, masonry, steel and timber-based cladding systems.

Radial and battered brickwork: Set out and build brickwork, including complex arches and surrounding brickwork, curved on plan, concave and convex brickwork and battered brickwork.

Feature and reinforced brickwork: Set out and build brickwork, including complex decorative features, obtuse/acute angle quoins and reinforced brickwork

Fireplaces and chimneys: Select materials and resources required to set out and build fireplaces and chimneys using materials such as hearths, plinths, flue liners, chimney pots and other modern methods

SKILLS

Apprentices will gain skills in the following areas:

Prepare materials: Determine quality and quantities of building material including mix ratios of mortar and concrete. Areas and volumes of materials and resources.

Work safely: Adhere to relevant health and safety legislation, codes of practice and apply safe working practices, including when working at heights. Safe use of 'disc cutters' and power cutters.

Working area: Select appropriate tools, equipment and materials (eg trowel, levels, brick ties, DPC, insulation, mixers, lintels etc.) for use when setting out and erecting masonry walling. Maintain a clean working environment.

Masonry structures: Interpret drawings and specifications. Measure the work area and set out level first courses of bricks toa plan, including bonds for openings and the damp course. Mix mortar by hand or with a mechanical mixer. Lay bricks to set dimensions and apply mortar with a trowel to completion. Shape and trim bricks/blocks using hammers, chisels and power too. Use of laser levels, spirit levels, optical levels and string lines to check that courses are straight, horizontally and vertically, and laid to a gauge. Ensure thermal qualities, airtightness and ventilation are maintained. Remove waste material. Repair and renewmasonry structures.

Radial and battered brickwork: Set out and build brickwork, including simple arches and surrounding brickwork.

Feature and reinforced brickwork: Set out and build brickwork, including common decorative features such as oversailing courses and simple corbels

Other brickwork: Block laying. Cavity walling to include openings, brick inspection chambers, joint finishes, set out a square, set out to a gauge rod and/or profile.

Building technology: Select materials and resources to be able to set out and lay concrete, drainage and other substructure materials.

BEHAVIOUR

Apprentices will demonstrate the following behaviours:

Positive and mature attitude: Conscientious, punctual, enthusiastic, reliable and professional including appearance. Take responsibility for personal judgements and actions. Be aware of the limits of personal competence. Show drive and energy in fulfilling requirements of role, including deadlines and being proactive not reactive. Show honesty and integrity by developing the trust of customers and colleagues and undertaking responsibilities in an ethical and empathetic manner. Demonstrate awareness of equality and diversity in all aspects of role.

Quality focused: Be reliable, productive, efficient and quality focused in work and in personal standards to current industrial standards. Awareness and consideration of other trades eg build walls in a way that allows for pipes and electrical wiring. Keep work area clean and tidy. Provide good customer service . Give consideration to the appropriate use of resources and personal actions relating to environmental, social and economic factors and their impacts.

Effective communication: Oral (including listening), written, body language and presentation. Collaborate with others, eg colleagues, clients, architects, contract managers, other trades, clients, suppliers and the public regardless of differences in race, gender, sexual orientation, or other characteristics.

Self-motivated learner: Identify personal development needs and take action to meet those needs. Keep up-to-date with best practice and new technology. Show initiative to independently complete work and solve problems by seeking out critical information.

How will I be assessed?

A qualified assessor will provide an induction and regular workplace assessments

What can I do next?

Full-time employment in the sector

Delivery

Location: Work-based & College
Start Date: 02/09/2024
Day:
Time:
Course Fee:
Course Code: X0017
Study Mode: Full Time Programme Component

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