



Key Education

Qualifications

Postgraduate Certificate in Higher Education, The University of Sheffield

PhD Organometallic Chemistry, The University of Sheffield

BSc Chemistry (First Class Honours), The University of Sheffield



Professional Training

Masters in Business Administration (MBA), Hull University

Chartered Institute of Marketing Advance Certificate in Marketing

Postgraduate Diploma in Management Studies (Distinction), Hull University

Key Skills

Influencing

Drive, motivation and commitment

Communication – both written and verbal



Challenge

Starting any new job can be daunting. Everything is unfamiliar, there's lots of new people to get to know and lots of terminology which is specific to the industry. It can often take a few weeks, if not months, before you feel like you are making a valuable contribution.

My Advice

Everyone was new at least once!



Technical Graduate, Corus Engineering Steels (CES)

I joined CES on the Graduate training scheme within the Technical function. Although I'd studied Chemistry at University, I had no knowledge of materials or metallurgy and felt that it was a very steep learning curve at first. My colleagues were great – very patient and keen to share their knowledge and experience. I soon realised that I wasn't expected to know the details, but my studies had given me the ability to learn and work in a structured, methodical way. I spent 18 months on the graduate training scheme and during that time I completed three placements in different parts of the business, which provided an excellent opportunity to gain knowledge and first hand experience of the plant and its processes.

Business Development Analyst (CES)

I'd spent three weeks working in the Marketing department whilst I was on the training scheme and really enjoyed it. I'd soon realised that I wanted to combine my technical background with working in a more customer or people focused role. I'd never done any marketing before, so enrolled onto a part time Chartered Institute of Marketing course, which I did a couple of evenings per week. It was great to learn new things that were relevant to my new role and it was interesting to meet fellow students that worked in other industries. I got involved in lots of projects looking at supply chains, working with customers and had opportunity to travel, both in the UK and Europe.

Communications Manager

The opportunity came along to take a relatively new role in the business and I never looked back! I was responsible for all of our internal and external communication, which included writing newsletters, supporting company wide initiatives, internal workshops and seminars, school engagement and charitable activities. I worked with a huge range of different people on a variety of projects, so time management and multi tasking were essential. I'd already completed my MBA by this point in my career, so personal development was more about learning on-the-job.

Manager (GFG Foundation UK)

My current role is managing the GFG Foundation, which is an education charity set up by Sanjeev Gupta, Executive Chairman of the GFG Alliance, and his wife Nicola. The Foundation seeks to address the emerging gap in industry skills by presenting a modern and sustainable perspective on industrial careers to inspire future generations. So having had an enjoyable career myself in STEM, I'm now trying to educate and encourage the next generation of mathematicians, scientists, engineers, and entrepreneurs into the exciting world of STEM!