

# **WORKING AT RAB**

# **Nathan Parsons**

Flood Risk Engineer

### Joined the RAB Team:

August 2018 as an Apprentice Civil Engineer.

# Academic background:

I completed my A-Levels at sixth form then started my Apprenticeship with RAB. At the same time, I started a Civil and Transportation Engineering BEng (Hons) degree at University of Wolverhampton, supported by RAB. The degree / apprenticeship programme was 4 years in length, I worked four days a week at RAB and one day at university. I graduated in 2022 with a First Class Honours Degree.

#### My current role as Flood Risk Engineer:

RAB promoted me to Flood Risk Engineer on completion of my degree, and I now work in the Flood Risk and Drainage team. The work is varied and very interesting, and includes:

- Flood Risk Assessments and SuDS drainage designs to assist with client planning applications.
- Flood modelling (river models and surface water models) for use within Flood Risk Assessments.
- $\cdot$  Support with Asset Inspection within the Engineering sub-sector.

#### Previous roles and career progression at RAB:

Aug 2018 - Aug 2022: Apprentice Civil Engineer

Sept 2022 - ongoing: Flood Risk Management Engineer

During my apprenticeship I worked and experienced all sub-sectors of Flood Risk Management Sector including engineering projects, Property Flood Resilience (PFR) projects, and Flood Risk and Drainage projects.

# Why I enjoy working @ RAB:

The range and variety of projects within Flood Risk Management Sector is one of the highlights of working for RAB. Having the opportunity to be involved in a wide array of work is great for my development and experience, including PFR, asset inspection, engineering, flood risk assessments, drainage design.

This is my first experience of a working business, and it is wonderful that RAB has such a 'family feel' to it. They have also been very supportive with my studies and training opportunities. There is such a wealth of experience to turn to within the RAB team.

#### Best project or experience to date:

Preliminary modelling and flood defence study for Doncaster Council which focused on two separate small residential areas that recently flooded. I was tasked with creating some modelling data to understand the flood mechanism (using Flood Modeller rainfall model). I then had to design (indicatively) a flood defence structure/route which diverted and contained the surface water runoff such that the areas would not flood in future. The work involved me testing the best way to model the flood mechanism and the practicality of defences.

#### Future career ambitions:

Become a Chartered Civil Engineer (CEng) with the Institution of Civil Engineers (ICE) – I'm currently working towards my Incorporated Engineer status (IEng).

"Great company culture led by the Management team. I can be open and honest and offer my opinion to my line manager who takes feedback on board. I have been provided with opportunities to develop and progress within the organisation, and the remote / hybrid working helps manage work life balance."

Quote from RAB Internal Staff Survey 2022

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