

Graduate Engineer

Grace Lee is a Graduate Engineer at SIMS Metal

I joined Sims Metal in August 2022 as a Graduate Engineer, so I have been in my role just over a year now.

Before that, I got my Bachelor's Degree in Aerospace Engineering and did lots of work experience in the aviation sector.

I decided to change to the recycling industry because I was interested in circular economy and sustainability, as well as a more hands on engineering role!

Usually for a graduate scheme, you need a degree to start but Sims are great at offering opportunities based on merit and experience if you have that. There are different levels and types of jobs to make the industry accessible to everyone and they will train you up as you go.

So far in my role, I have been trained up as a Maintenance and Design Engineer, Fire Marshall, Fork Lift Driver, Project Manager, and many more things! This is all alongside studying for my ILM Level 3 qualification in Leadership and Management.

The most important skills for a Graduate Engineer are a willingness to learn and good communication. All the technical learning skills can be practiced on the job, and there are lots of people to learn from.

A graduate engineer would be suitable for anyone who likes fixing things, isn't afraid to get dirty, and enjoys working in a team to overcome challenges.

My advice to anyone looking to start a Green Career: Be the change you want to see in the world!



Metals recycling is a £7 billion sector and comprises an estimated 2,000 businesses and employs over 15,000 people. It is an established globally competitive industry that provides essential raw material from recycling for metals manufacture, which in turn enables a significant reduction in use of energy and virgin resources.