

LEGAL

Kimberly Dunning-Philp

Legal & Contracts Coordinator

My qualifications are

- BA (Joint Hons) Linguistics with English
- Currently studying Level 3 CILEX Paralegal Apprenticeship

Skills needed in my role



- Attention to detail
- Organisation
- Confidence
- Resilience
- Integrity
- Communication skills
- Teamwork

About me

I am Kimberly Dunning-Philp and I work as the Legal & Contracts Coordinator within the central Legal Team at Curtins. In 2014 I graduated from Nottingham Trent University with a BA Joint Honors degree in Linguistics with English. This degree allowed me to explore my passion for words and their meaning which has ultimately led me to where I am today!

What are your day-to-day responsibilities at work?

I work within the central Legal Team, reviewing and negotiating contracts and other ancillary documents relating to the projects that we are working on. This involves reviewing bespoke contractual documentation that we receive from our clients and applying my knowledge of both the law and the industry to achieve our desired position which ultimately seeks to protect the company. Much of my time is spent reviewing documentation and speaking with the project teams to understand what we are delivering on the project, to put the words within the contracts into context.

What subjects did you study at GCSE that helped you with your career?

English Language, Mathematics

What do you enjoy most about your job?

I love speaking with other employees throughout the whole business and learning more about their projects and disciplines. I enjoy constantly developing and applying my knowledge to negotiations and contributing to the successes of the team.

Tell us about your career path!

After graduating from university, I moved to Leeds and worked within various administration roles before moving to Curtins as the Leeds Office Manager. I then transferred internally to the Legal Team and I am now nearing the completion of my apprenticeship as a CILEX Paralegal. I am responsible for reviewing and advising on any legal matters that arise in the course of the business.



STRUCTURAL ENGINEERING

Kamal Fuller

Graduate Structural Engineer

My qualifications are

- BSc
- MSc Civil Engineering
- MSc Structural Engineering

Skills needed in my role



- Technical knowledge
- Patience
- Creativity
- Communication skills
- Teamwork
- Problem solving

About me

I am Kamal Fuller; I work as a Graduate Structural Engineer, and I have been with Curtins since 2022. I joined with Curtins immediately after finishing my MSc of Structural Engineering at the University of Leeds. I am devout Christian and I spend my spare time volunteering at different church events, inspiring and helping teens and children to make decisions for their future.

What are your day-to-day responsibilities at work?

As the most junior member of my team, I support the analysis and design of different structural elements to make sure whatever building I am designing is safe to construct and complies with the necessary codes.

What subjects did you study at GCSE that helped you with your career?

I am from the Caribbean and our Equivalent to GCSEs are CSECs where I sat: Mathematics, Physics, Biology, Chemistry, IT, English, English Literature, and Technical Drawing.

What do you enjoy most about your job?

I like presenting the conceptual aspect of my job, where I get to draw my designs and show what my intended design and calculations should look like when the structure is built.

Tell us about your career path!

I completed my Civil Engineering Bachelors in the United States where I was able to travel to different parts of the country and see very interesting infrastructure. I then moved back to my home country (Jamaica) where I was an athlete for a few years, still travelling and seeing different country infrastructure. After my time as an athlete, I went back to school to complete my Masters degree in Structural Engineering - and now I get to design buildings that shape people's environment.

What is the best project you have worked on?

The best project I have worked on is one that I am currently doing, Kirkstall Road, Leeds. It is a development with many high rises, some surpassing 17 stories tall. The project will deliver many homes and transform an area of the city that has been neglected for a few years. It will also tie communities on either side of the River Aire which was previously inaccessible to each other.



LEARNING & DEVELOPMENT

Laura Rodriguez Ariza

Learning & Development Practitioner

My qualifications are

- BArch
- MSc Structural Engineering

Skills needed in my role



- Strategic vision & foresight
- Creativity
- Innovation
- Communication skills
- Teamwork

About me

I am Laura Rodriguez Ariza and I work as a Learning & Development Practitioner as a technical specialist after having previously being a Senior Structural Engineer at Curtins for over 6 years. In 2012, I graduated from the University of Seville in Spain with a BArch in Architecture. In 2018, I completed a master's degree in Structural Engineering at the University of Salford in Manchester.

What are your day-to-day responsibilities at work?

I work with other disciplines to develop engineering knowledge training programs for our technical staff.

What subjects did you study at GCSE?

Mathematics, Physics and Technology

What do you enjoy most about your job?

I love engaging with other colleagues and disciplines to understand and recognise the needs of training that they require. I enjoy helping others grow and flourish in their career paths at Curtins, using my technical knowledge to develop high-quality learning solutions.

Tell us about your career path!

After finishing my degree in Architecture, I worked as an architectural assistant for 15 months until I realised I wanted to work designing structures rather than designing the layout of buildings. I started as a Graduate Structural Engineer and worked my way up to a senior level. I am currently doing a secondment in the Learning and Development department where I am responsible for the development of technical training for our Structural and Civil engineers as well as our technicians.

What is the best project you have worked on?

In my role as a Structural Engineer, one of the most exciting projects I worked on was Landmark, a 17-storey office building in Manchester. The building comprised open plan office space using deep steel cellular beams of up 17m span.



TRANSPORT PLANNING

Lynnie Ler

Transport Planner

My qualifications are

- MEng Mechanical Engineering

Skills needed in my role



- Perseverance
- Communication skills
- Teamwork
- Time management

About me

I am Lynnie Ler and I work as a Transport Planner at Curtins. I have been in Curtins for over 4 years now. In 2019, I graduated from the University of Manchester with a MEng in Mechanical Engineering. I ventured into Transport Planning by coincidence as I previously interned in a transport company focusing on mechanical and electrical building services and I combined the two. I've been in the planning field since then, and it's working out alright!

What are your day-to-day responsibilities at work?

I work with a variety of clients and advise on traffic and highways matters across residential, industrial, commercial, healthcare, and education sectors.

What subjects did you study at GCSE that helped you with your career?

Mathematics, Physics, Chemistry, Biology

What do you enjoy most about your job?

I enjoy knowing that what I do contributes to a better future for people and the environment – such as assisting with new housing developments for families and reducing the impacts of transport and its emissions on the environment by encouraging sustainable modes of travel.

Tell us about your career path!

I came from a very academic background and was very good at studying for exams, however I lacked hands-on experience and skills that were applicable in a workplace. I interned across many different sectors to find my feet, such as philanthropy, sports, banking, engineering, and planning. I'm still finding my feet but enjoying planning at this stage of my life and am keen to further explore the opportunities for growth in this sector.

What is the best project you have worked on?

Our team in Curtins handles jobs big and small, but I'm proudest of the smaller projects we work on with homeless shelters and affordable housing charities, which provide a roof over the heads of people who need them the most.



STRUCTURAL ENGINEERING

Magnus Thomson

Project Structural Engineer

My qualifications are

- MEng Structural Engineering with Architecture

Skills needed in my role



- Problem solving
- Communication
- An analytical approach
- Technical knowledge
- Creativity
- Teamwork

About me

I am Magnus Thomson, I work as a Project Structural Engineer, and I have been delivering projects at Curtins for 2 years. Outside of work I love to hang out with friends and play football or to venture out on the weekend to find new places to go hiking, kayaking, or climbing.

What are your day-to-day responsibilities at work?

I work within a team to realise projects predominantly in the education, residential and health-care building sectors. My responsibilities are to design and analyse a structure to ensure stability, safety and compliance with codes and standards as well as identify efficient, economic solutions that minimise impact on our environment. As a Project Engineer I collaborate closely with architects, contractors, regulatory authorities, and other professionals to integrate the structural considerations into the overall building design.

What subjects did you study at GCSE that helped you with your career?

Mathematics, Physics, Design and Technology, Art, History

What do you enjoy most about your job?

It's incredibly satisfying to witness the tangible results of my work, as I see projects come to life on construction sites that I've meticulously designed in the office. Moreover, I find great reward in the collaborative nature of the job, working closely with my colleagues to tackle

complex problems and collectively find innovative solutions. This sense of teamwork and the real-world impact of our designs make each day in this profession fulfilling and exciting.

Tell us about your career path!

In 2019, I graduated from The University of Edinburgh with a master's degree in Structural Engineering with Architecture. After finishing my degree, I worked in a structural consultancy in Edinburgh where I had previously had a summer internship opportunity. I moved to Leeds 2 years later and joined Curtins as an experienced graduate engineer. At Curtins I have been promoted to Project Structural Engineer and am currently developing my portfolio to be recognised as a Chartered Structural Engineer with the IStructE.

What is the best project you have worked on?

The best project I have worked on as Structural Engineer is Leeds' Urban Village. This project consists of 5 high-rise structures and wider masterplan that will bring a new desirable urban neighbourhood to reinforce the cultural and creative community in the heart of Leeds. The project will deliver 1012 new homes and include spaces to accommodate retail, food and beverage as, well as a considered range of resident amenities such as 'work from home' suites, a cinema, gym and a 'library of things' – appliances and useful equipment for people to borrow.



TRANSPORT PLANNING

Matt Riley

Graduate Transport Planner

My qualifications are

- BA Geography
- MSc Transport Planning

Skills needed in my role



- Analytical thinking
- Teamwork
- Confidence in using computer software packages
- Communication.
- Attention to detail
- Creativity and innovation



About me

My name is Matt Riley and I have been working as a Graduate Transport Planner at Curtins since I graduated from university in 2021. I graduated from the University of Southampton with a BA in Geography. In 2022, I completed a masters degree in Transport Planning at the University of Leeds.

What are your day-to-day responsibilities at work?

I conduct transport planning analysis (i.e. modelling, surveys, and site visits) to produce transport assessments and plans for planning applications.

What subjects did you study at GCSE that helped you with your career?

Mathematics, English, Geography

What do you enjoy most about your job?

I enjoy working on a variety of projects that require different needs and solutions. Curtins provides a friendly working environment that promotes the Transport Planning team to work together through all stages of our projects.

Tell us about your career path!

I found urban design and infrastructure most interesting from my Geography degree, which led me to studying for a masters in Transport Planning at Leeds. On completing my studies, I joined the Curtins Manchester office. I have been developing my skillset within a professional environment for the last year.

What is the best project you have worked on?

The best project I have worked on as a Graduate Transport Planner is with Manchester United. We have completed several feasibility studies for new training ground facilities.

ENVIRONMENTAL ENGINEERING

James Thananchanai Elliott

Geo-Ennvironmental Engineer

My qualifications are

- BSc (Hons) Geology
- MSc Engineering Geology

Skills needed in my role



- Decision making
- Creativity
- Communication skills
- Leadership
- Teamwork



About me

I'm James and I work as a Geo-environmental Engineer in Leeds. I was born in Thailand, grew up in Wiltshire and having been working in Leeds for nearly 3 years. Outside of work I do bouldering and sport climbing. I'm also into gaming and have a 2-year-old long-haired dachshund.

I graduated in 2019 from the University of Liverpool with a BSc (hons) in Geology whilst serving in the British Army Reserves. In 2020, I completed a masters degree in Engineering Geology at the University of Leeds.

What are your day-to-day responsibilities at work?

I work on projects across Yorkshire to provide ground engineering solutions. This includes designing and undertaking ground investigations, advise on foundation recommendations, remediation strategies, as well as supervise earthworks and site investigations. I have also previously worked in geotechnical design, working on retaining wall designs and slope stabilisation.

What subjects did you study at GCSE that helped you with your career?

Geology, Geography, Mathematics, Physics, and Chemistry

What do you enjoy most about your job?

I love geology and find interesting the engineering impacts geology has on the world. I enjoy working on local projects that improve the area I live in, and really enjoy working with my colleagues at Curtins. We also get to do a lot of regular activities with colleagues out of work such as climbing, bowling, go-karting. Plus the yearly York races trip is always a great night.

Tell us about your career path!

After finishing my masters Engineering Geology, I worked for a geo-environmental contractor which was mostly site based on different scales of sites across the UK. I wanted to work in a more design role and work on projects local to where I live, so I moved into a geotechnical design engineer role for a small consultancy in Harrogate. I enjoyed the role but missed working in a larger team, working on larger projects and I quite enjoyed working in the field. Following this, I joined Curtins as a Geo-environmental Engineer nearly 2 years ago and have been enjoying working ever since.

What is the best project you have worked on?

Thes best project I have worked on is Chapel Allerton Hospital in Leeds which was a 2-minute walk from where I lived at the time. This was a proposed multi-storey hospital extension with a complex underlying geology of Elland Flags Sandstone and Pennine Lower Coal Measures.

CIVIL ENGINEERING

Joshua Dodds

Graduate Civil Engineer

My qualifications are

- MEng Civil Engineering

Skills needed in my role



- Communication
- Creativity
- Teamwork
- Curiosity
- Innovation
- Problem solving

About me

I am Joshua Dodds and I work as a Graduate Civil Engineer having joined Curtins in 2023 from another firm. I graduated from the University of Nottingham in 2022 with masters in civil engineering.

What are your day-to-day responsibilities at work?

I work with the Civils team to deliver 3D modelling and designs for roads, drainage and earth works. As well as working with other teams to coordinate and support their design work.

What subjects did you study at GCSE that helped you with your career?

Mathematics, Physics, English, Geography, IT & Product Design

What do you enjoy most about your job?

I love that my work is so varied, no 2 days or projects are the same and each requires a new way of looking at a problem and pushes us to think outside the box. Working as part of a team to create designs, presenting your ideas to clients and colleagues always pushes you to think differently, and consider if there is a better way of doing it. Curtins is at the cutting edge of engineering software, and watching something go from your computer to driving past completed on your way home is a really rewarding feeling.

Tell us about your career path!

After completing A Levels in Geography, Physics, Mathematics and Chemistry I joined the University of Nottingham on a Rowing Scholarship. After 4 years of my degree, I worked in Wakefield as a Graduate Engineer for 12 months and moved to Curtins to experience a wider variety of projects, and progress my career forward. I am currently working towards becoming a chartered civil engineer with the Institution for Civil Engineers and hope to achieve this in the next 2 years.

What is the best project you have worked on?

The best project I have worked on is the Rotherham Canal Barrier. The demands of the site surrounded by water, the constant flooding and bad weather, and short construction window made this a challenging but great scheme to be a part of.



MARKETING

Kate Clegg

Marketing Manager

My qualifications are

- BMus (Hons)
- MA in Arts Administration and Composition
- Level 4 Certificate in Professional Marketing

Skills needed in my role



- Communication
- Creativity
- Teamwork
- Writing
- Organisation and planning
- Interpersonal skills



About me

I'm Kate and I lead on Curtins' marketing and communication campaigns. I studied for my degrees at Bangor University and graduated with a Masters in 2012. I probably didn't take a direct route into marketing – originally setting out to study music – but I dabbled in music promotion and found that events marketing really chimed with me, and this led me on my path towards where I am today. Outside of work I have two young children and enjoy blowing off steam with running and netball. Music is still a big part of my life though, and I sing in community choir and play the piano for fun.

What are your day-to-day responsibilities at work?

I am responsible for planning and delivering marketing campaigns and initiatives for our external audiences (clients and job seekers), as well as our colleagues at Curtins. It's an incredibly varied role and I'll find myself working on a unique photography exhibition one day, designing a website the next and finishing the week on a festival of getting together events for our staff.

What subjects did you study at GCSE that helped you with your career?

English and English Literature was essential to support the written communications. Maths has also helped with managing budgets, and IT gave me the foundation I needed to learn new software packages.

What do you enjoy most about your job?

No two days are the same. Curtins delivers such a breadth of marketing activities, each tailored towards our different audiences, and I love being able to bring fresh ideas and new approaches to them so that we can deliver the best results. The work we do is often really visible, and it's great being able to see the positive outcomes of a well executed event plan, website design or promotional material creation. I also get involved in some truly rewarding work too – contributing towards Curtins' approach to diversity and inclusion, supporting charitable work and helping our teams inspire young people into careers in engineering and construction. It's great to be part of this positive legacy.

Tell us about your career path!

During my Masters degree I specialised in arts administration, which sparked my interest in marketing. After university, I picked up any marketing work I could (paid and unpaid) to build up my experience, and joined Curtins' Kendal office in a full time administration role. I worked my way up to become a Business Development Assistant, but still with a desire to fulfil my marketing dreams, I left to join an arts organisation running exhibitions across four venues. I was extremely torn about the decision – I loved Curtins - but felt I had to pursue this career.

A couple of years later though, in 2019, Curtins got in touch with me to ask if I'd be interested in returning in a marketing role. It's no surprise that I jumped at the chance and have been happily flourishing in my role here ever since.