

# Meet Anthony – Process Engineering Industrial Placement student



**Q: When did you start your first role at the Environment Agency?**

A: I joined in September 2025 as an Industry Placement Student.

**Q: What inspired you to join the Environment Agency?**

A: I have always had a keen interest in decarbonisation, and I wanted to change the perception that a lot of chemical engineering has, oil-drilling, profit chasing and destroying the environment. And working for the Environment Agency does just that.

**Q: What was your first impression of the EA?**

A: Extremely friendly, everyone is so keen to help and see you succeed. There are so many support structures within the agency, which is a stark difference to the work environment you see in the corporate world nowadays. This all made it very easy to fit in and adapt.

**Q: What does a typical day look like?**

A: I can only speak about the first rotation in permitting, but its flexible, either working from home or in the office mainly writing up permits and contacting operators. In the 2<sup>nd</sup> rotation however it'll be more boots on the ground site visits and regulating and meeting with operators face to face.

**Q: What learning opportunities have helped you grow?**

A: The ability to host or lead meetings and get-togethers with other Environment Agency employees has greatly helped with my confidence in the workplace and made me not afraid to reach out to people within the organisation with a much higher position or operators at other companies.

**Q: Can you share a project you're proud of?**

A: I was able to attend the IChemE Hazards 35 conference representing the Environment Agency where I attended talks and workshops hosted by world-leading experts in safety. I was then able to relay this information in a series of presentations to other members of the Environment Agency to ensure a safer and hazard-focused culture.



### **Q: What skills have you developed?**

A: Problem-solving, being in such a new environment and in a role where everyone is new to me, you must learn to adapt and deal with unfamiliar situations which I found quite enjoyable, and this has prepared me for the future.

### **Q: How does your role reflect your values?**

A: I truly care about the environment and its betterment, as well as holding companies responsible for their damaging of it.

### **Q: What did your role teach you that academia didn't?**

A: The Environment Agency is a very large and diverse organisation with a plethora of roles. In university we only ever interacted professionally with other chemical engineers, therefore the ability to speak with and learn from many different people within the Environment Agency has made me not only more understanding of how chemical engineering relates to different fields, but also how to tailor the topics I speak about towards different audiences.

### **Q: What advice would you give to someone thinking about joining the EA?**

A: It's a placement like no other, it's a very welcoming community with everyone wanting you to succeed. And the diverse range of opportunities and people available to work with offers learning experiences incredibly unique to this placement.

### **Q: What would you say is the best thing about the EA?**

A: The amazing and supportive work environment.