

I'm Matt, I'm a supply chain graduate and I'm currently in demand planning for confectionery. Supply chain is all about getting a product from raw material state, straight through to it being on shelf. In my current role I'm confectionery in demand planner for one of the key accounts in the confectionery business. This fits in with KitKat, which we work with the sales team to put a forecast into the system, which drives the production, which then insures that there is enough KitKat being produced to meet the customer's requirements; we do this up to 18 months in advance, but update it on a monthly basis and review this on a daily basis.

In the supply chain there's 4 key areas; the first one's procurement which is all about buying the raw materials at the best price, second one is all about the planning, which involves supply planning and demand planning which is the forecasting, and then actually supply planning to ensure that enough stock is made to meet that forecast; there's customer service, which is all about getting the orders from the customers, from the retailers and ensuring that the stock is dispatched. Logistics is all about getting the distribution right through dispatching the products from our warehouses into the customer's warehouses at minimum cost.

Hi I'm Sophie, I'm a supply chain graduate and my current role is warehouse team leader as part of Nestle logistics. Nestle logistics is the last link in the chain before the KitKat reaches the customer.

The orders will come down here, for example 10 cases of KitKat4 finger, 10 cases of KitKat chunky and my team, the seven team warehouse operatives will pick the orders for the customers, load the trailers, unload the KitKat coming in and make sure that the order's going out to the customers on time in full, so that the consumers can buy it. We have some really demanding customers that want orders 7 days a week 24 hours a day, so we need to make sure that we're being flexible, agile in order to meet these customers' needs; so this warehouse is 24 hours a day, so this means shift work for me, which I've found quite a challenge as part of this placement.

Part of the Nestlé graduate scheme requires you to be flexible and be able to move round different locations in the UK; I personally have moved 2 times and will be moving again in the next month.

It's brilliant the way that Nestle handle this with the number of graduates on the scheme; there's always plenty of people in different locations to be with, to socialise with and Nestlé also put together a package giving you advice on where to live in the area and what social activities you can do.

My proudest achievement since being in this placement is running shifts on my own after being in this role for three months. For example, making sure that all the issues that came up to do with the stock and people and getting all the orders out on time, I had to oversee all of that on my own, with no other managers here and I was really happy because we'd exceeded picking targets on shifts that I run on my own.