



EXPERIENCE WORKS FOR LOCAL PUPIL

A local school pupil has been able to see history in the making, thanks to developers in the Lawley area providing a work experience placement.

Anthony Moore, from the Phoenix School in Dawley, spent a week at the Ironstone development, which will see the construction of 3,300 homes when complete, as well as restaurants, bars and retail facilities.

The Ironstone Developer Group (IDG) comprises Barratt, George Wimpey and Persimmon, with Anthony spending his time with infrastructure partner Birse Civils Ltd, allowing him to see the elements of this major project at first hand.

Public liaison officer at Birse Civils, Sarah Meek, said: "Work experience placements are part of an ongoing initiative to link up with the community to ensure that it benefits from our presence on a local level.

"We tried to provide Anthony with a broad role that encompassed many aspects of the infrastructure process for a large site such as this, which will hopefully help highlight future career options."

Anthony became a civil engineer for the week, giving him an excellent grounding in surveying, as well as exposure to key health and safety issues to be aware of in the construction industry.

Mia Knowland, work experience co-ordinator at the Phoenix School, said of the placements: “It is encouraging that Birse is reaching out to the community in educational and training ways, especially by forging links with our school.”

The placement follows a string of partnerships with local schools from Birse and the developers, such as drawing competitions and safety initiatives for the children.

The IDG and associated partners are also looking to establish opportunities to start apprenticeship schemes for the benefit of local school-leavers.