



Andrew Jones
Barnsley College

Engineering Apprentice Profile

A little about myself:

I went to Ridgewood School which I enjoyed - it was a good school. I left with 10 GCSE's - grades A-C. I'm now at Barnsley College completing the HNC in Engineering. I intended to go into the 6th form - but I saw an advertisement for a training opportunity in a shop window and so went on the Modern Apprentice route instead. I'm now working at Manor Bakeries doing re-active electrical maintenance. It's interesting work.

Why go for a career in engineering ?

I think there's the possibility of a good career in engineering, and good money if you get the right openings and qualifications

Where do you aim to be career wise - in 5 years time ?

I hope to move on to finish a degree in engineering and be starting to move onto some better job opportunities with plenty of options

Where do you aim to be career wise - in 10 years time ?

I hope to have got to a management position in engineering

How are you going to get there ?

I've applied to Sheffield University - starting in October to do a degree in Engineering. I'm hoping my next move will clarify my options and how to get there

What have you enjoyed about the Modern Apprenticeship ?

I think learning new skills, and meeting and working with a wide variety of people was important - and also getting into a new culture of work rather than school.

Have you been encouraged by your employer / training provider ?

Yes - they were prepared to support me through the HNC, and maybe the degree as well. They pushed me to complete and assisted with the programme work.

Who gave you most support during your MA ?

College support has been very good, and work has allowed me to complete of





course - they've been keen to see me complete the programme

Which areas of the MA programme did you enjoy most ?

The work I did for the HNC in Electronic & Electrical engineering

Which areas of the MA programme did you enjoy least ?

That has to be the Key Skills - we didn't get any exemptions, and the NVQ portfolio wasn't all that easy to write up and complete in the company

What could have been done to make the MA programme work better for you?

More emphasis on work based training would have been better for me, and some more relevant guidance about the best paths to take and how to get there. I would have liked more training in drawing skills as well.

Would you recommend the programme to others ?

Definitely - it's a good start in engineering

What would you tell them about MA 's ?

.....the money's good, and you get to meet plenty of interesting people... you also get loads of work experience.....

