



**Daniel Pollard**  
Doncaster College

# Engineering Apprentice Profile

A little about myself

**I went to Howden Secondary School, I was always interested in going to the gym, cycling, and cars. I'm now working in the Ferrybridge power station workshops as an engineer.**

What qualifications did you leave school with ?

**I left with 4 GCSE's all 'c' grades - but they included technical science and maths**

What encouraged you to go for a career in engineering ?

**I was always interested in the technical side of things, and my cousin did the same apprenticeship, so I know a little bit about it.**

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

**I'm hoping to have completed the HND, and have enough skills to move into being a team leader or something of that level.**

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

**Well I think there's plenty of opportunity over the coming years because the age profile of the workshops is such that there's going to be a lot of people retiring over the next ten years and there's.... sort of no one in the middle to fill the gaps - so engineers like me should have some good prospects**

Is there a clear progression route for you to this position ?

**I think so - but you can never be too certain about things at work these days**

Is the progression route for you through Higher Education ?

**Well certainly there's scope for improving the theory side of engineering and gaining more certificates - but I think work gives you the technical skills**

What have you enjoyed most about the Modern Apprenticeship ?

**The mix of new skills and experiences - especially in electrical and mechanical engineering. The mechanical side has been my particular interest.**





Ferrybridge

Have you been encouraged by your employer / training provider ?

**They've allowed me to have flexible working patterns so I can attend day release courses, also they've paid for me to complete the HND so that's been very supportive.**

Have they given you information about pathways to progression ?

**Not the people I'm working with every day - but certainly the training section of the company - where we've had meetings and reviews**

Who has given you most support during your MA ?

**Work did, also my family were supportive, and of course the College has helped me to progress.**

What was the nature of that support ?

**At college - the tutors have been supportive, and the college facilities have been good.**

Which areas of the MA programme did you enjoy most ?

**The mechanical side of the training was the most enjoyable for me - it's my main area of interest.**

Which areas of the MA programme did you enjoy least ?

**I can think of anything really - I suppose some of the stuff we covered you wouldn't use again - but who knows ?**

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

**I would prefer the programme to be run on one day per week. The block release part of the course meant that the gaps between the block were too great. I would prefer the learning to be more continuous.**

Would you recommend the programme to others ?

**Yes**

What would you tell them about MA 's ?

***It's an enjoyable experience. You can learn whilst you work, and earn money as well. But you're building your work experience up all the time.***

