

## SHAI MECHANICAL ENGINEER APPRENTICE



### What does an average day look like for you?

An average day at my workplace consists of learning how different types of machinery work, how to diagnose and fault find. Once the faults have been found I then repair or replace the broken parts and get the machine back to full working order. As I work at the front of the shop this means helping the customers with the questions and queries they might have relating to hiring and purchasing equipment and machines.

When at SETA I cover lots of different practical rotations. The ones I have covered already include TIG Welding, Bench fitting and Fluid Power. Along with the practical side we are required to do a theory side. This means on a Wednesday I attend SETA to do the BTEC side of things. So far I have done engineering maths and Health and Safety.

### How did you first become interested in engineering?

I first became interested in engineering at a young age when I started tinkering with everyday objects around the house. I was always curious about how things worked, whether it was taking apart old electronics or building simple structures with Legos.

As time has gone on, I realized that engineering was the perfect field to combine my love for problem-solving and my interest in creating solutions. My fascination with engineering continued when I started learning about how engineers use science and technology to address real-world challenges.

### What has been your personal highlight so far?

Learning to weld. This has been very important in my career because it helps in my every day challenges

ME WITH MY TIG WELD PIECE!

### Why did you choose to do an apprenticeship?

I chose an apprenticeship because it gives me the chance to learn by *doing*. I've always believed that hands-on experience is one of the best ways to truly understand a trade. Being able to work alongside experienced professionals lets me pick up skills and insights that you can't get from just textbooks. Plus, I like the idea of earning while I learn and getting real-world exposure to the challenges and problem-solving that come with the job. It's also a great way to build connections and set myself up for long-term career growth.

### What personal qualities do you think are important to do your job?

Perseverance and patience - This is important because when you have to fault find an issue with some machinery I will need to persevere to ensure the fault gets found.

Working under pressure is quite common at my workplace. This is because customers require quick turnarounds on the repairs and the front of the shop will get quite busy at points and I have to step in and help.

