

Floyd Stewart

Mechanical Design Apprenticeship

Learner Case Study

Age: 21

Started at Gen2: 2014

Programme: Mechanical Design - Level 3

Why did you apply for Gen2?

I wanted to pursue a career in mechanical engineering and thought an apprenticeship would be the best choice. I'm very practical and believed an apprenticeship would suit my learning style better.

Can you explain the application process?

I applied via the website and was invited for an aptitude test. Gen2 sent my CV out to a variety of company's and Jacobs invited me for an interview at the end of August. I was successful and started in September.

How did you prepare for your interview?

To prepare for my interview I did some research on my potential employer, the companies they link with, and what they're involved with locally. I also tried to find out as much as I could about the different job roles they employ for and where I could progress to within the company.

What did you do during the first few weeks of your apprenticeship?

I spent the first year of my apprenticeship in the Energus centre. My first few weeks were spent learning basics hand skills. Hack saws, machining etc. We also started the NVQ certificate which was given one day each week dedicated to it.

What is a typical working week?

40 hours a week, Monday - Friday (Half day Friday).



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What did you think when you first arrived? Was it what you expected?

Coming from school, it was a massive shock to the system. It was a much more adult environment and required me to be a lot more independent. The Gen2 workshops give you a taste of real world industry.

What sort of training have you done during your apprenticeship?

Since being with my employer, they have put me through a number of different training courses including: high pressure water engineer training, trials of equipment specific to jobs on site, HNC/HND Mechanical engineering through Jacobs, Cad software and 3D inventor software.

What is the best bit about doing an apprenticeship?

The independence. Being able to earn a wage, learn whilst working, and work for a company that really helps prepare you for a career.

What advice would you give someone who is thinking of applying / becoming an apprentice?

Even if you're sure what career path you want to do, don't put all of your eggs in one basket. Grades are important but have a portfolio of evidence to help support your grades.

What are your intentions after your apprenticeship ends?

I've just started a lv5 bridging course for a degree apprenticeship with the national college of nuclear. Alongside my studies I will continue to work at Jacobs.

What has been your biggest achievement since starting your Gen2 Apprenticeship?

I taught a number of unemployed people how to use CAD. I wouldn't have been able to do that without my training at Gen2.



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