

## **Sam Lawson, Maintenance Engineering Apprentice**

Sam Lawson, aged 23, completed his Maintenance Engineering apprenticeship in 2018 at Apollo and gained a level 3 NVQ in Engineering. He is now a Maintenance Operative and a valuable member of our Engineering team.

Sam first started his apprenticeship at Apollo in 2015 aged 19, he was keen to learn new skills and get experience within the workplace, whilst still gaining a qualification.

“I was first attracted to an apprenticeship because of the real work experience you get. When you gain your qualification, you already have 3 years of knowledge of the workplace. I’m a hands-on forward-thinking person, so the apprenticeship route suited me. Apollo seemed like a great place to work, so I couldn’t wait to start my apprenticeship here.” said Sam.

During the apprenticeship, Sam was given exposure to a wide variety of activities, including fabricating, reacting to breakdowns of machines (which included pumps, motors and pipes) and pipe fitting. This meant every day was varied for Sam and he was constantly learning.

“I’m really pleased with how much practical learning there was on my apprenticeship. Even now after my apprenticeship has finished, I’m doing new things every day and still learning. I especially enjoy the challenge in how we are always looking for ways to improve our systems and the way we do things – such as looking at how we can improve our machines to speed-up manufacturing times.”

Sam is a valuable member of the team at Apollo, and there are plans for further training in the future as he hopes to specialise in one area of Engineering.

Richard Purchase, Facilities and Engineering Manager, added “Sam has become a real asset to our Engineering team. It’s great to have seen him grow over his time here, not only his skills and knowledge, but his confidence too.

“Apprenticeships are now playing a key role at Apollo. They are a great route into the workplace that offers an experience that is hard to get elsewhere.”

To find out more about the opportunities at Apollo, visit <http://www.apollo.co.uk/work-for-us/why-work-for-us/>

