



“An exciting career change”

Name: Jake Byrom | **Job title:** Apprentice Lightning Engineer Operative, Manchester

I started my apprenticeship with Omega Red nine months ago. I was working in retail at the time and fancied a career change. Two of my friends had completed the apprenticeship and recommended the course. I had never done anything like this before, but I went into it with an open mind and felt excited to be starting a new challenge.

The apprenticeship consists of three-week blocks of college attendance and on-site work. In college, the learning is classroom based and we cover the theory needed to complete my role successfully. On-site, every day is different, and I am picking up the fundamental skills of earthing, height safety and installation of lightning protection. Aside this, I’m becoming a team player, learning to work more efficiently, and feeling motivated in my role.

I was pushed out of my comfort zone when I took on the apprenticeship but that’s something I enjoy most. The variety of the role, being able to try something new and working at different sites are aspects of the job which I find most exciting. I’m looking forward to getting my qualification and going on to do this new trade as a career.

I would encourage anyone thinking about applying for an apprenticeship to push themselves out of their comfort zone, give it a try and go into it with an open mind.