

Callum goes from strength to strength at Midshire

Learner: Callum Williamson

Qualification: Warehousing and Storage
Level 2 Apprenticeship

Employer: Midshire Business Systems



CALLUM WILLIAMSON

Callum Williamson from Stockport attended Bramhall High School, and after taking his GCSEs, decided that he wanted to follow a work based route rather than going to college. He heard about an Apprenticeship vacancy as a Warehouse Operative at Midshire Business Systems in Bredbury from his mother who worked close by and enquired about vacancies at the company. Callum, who is now 18, was offered an interview, and was pleased to be taken on.

Midshire is an industry award-winning, independent supplier of photocopiers, colour copiers, multi-functional printers, software and IT solutions with four regional offices based in Birmingham, Wales and the North East, as well as the Bredbury headquarters.

On a day-to-day basis, Callum's duties include unloading and checking deliveries of printing and photocopier equipment and then preparing machines ready for delivery to customers. This involves some assembly, cleaning and testing, ensuring that toners and inks are correctly installed, then re-packaging them for delivery. Callum also often goes out with colleagues to deliver multifunctional printing machines, set them up on customer sites, and train new users on the equipment. The deliveries can be to almost anywhere in the UK.

The Level 2 Certificate in Warehousing and Storage consists of two mandatory units, covering health and safety and developing effective working relationships, and a number of optional units including processing and assembling customer orders, receiving goods, maintain safety of hazardous goods and materials, and audit procedures. The training takes place in the workplace and Callum's Skills Company assessor, Ged Leckey came to visit him on site about once a month to assess his progress and set him assignments.

Callum said:

"I got on very well with Ged. He helped me to work through my portfolio and set me assignments that I had to complete before the next visit. The assignments were all related to the work I actually do, and that made them more relevant. I like the fact that I'm learning new skills all the time. I thought about college, but I prefer to learn on the job, and I wanted to be earning at the same time. I've also done lots of in-house training on different manufacturers' machines, so the learning doesn't stop with the Apprenticeship."

Debbie Wilson, Operations Manager at Midshire said:

"The company has been involved in Apprenticeships for several years now, and we've taken on apprentices in Business Administration and IT as well as Warehousing. Our Managing Director likes to see young people coming into the business and flourishing. Our approach is to try to develop a multi-skilled workforce, and Apprenticeships give us a great foundation to develop the skills that the business needs."

"Callum has made great progress during his time here. He's a very willing worker, and has steadily grown in confidence and begun to use his initiative much more. He has been very reliable and has qualified for a bonus that we pay to staff who have no time off sick in a year. He can really go from strength to strength in the business."