

Louis delivers the goods at Midshire

Learner: Louis Turner

Qualification: Warehousing and Storage Level 2 Apprenticeship

Employer: Midshire Business Systems



LOUIS TURNER

After leaving school, Louis Turner from Audenshaw enrolled on a full time plastering course at college. However, after completing the course, Louis struggled to find a job in that trade and decided to look for a different career path. He had several relatives who worked at Midshire Business Systems in Bredbury, Stockport, and through them, heard about an Apprenticeship vacancy as a Warehouse Operative at the firm. Louis applied for the post, and following a successful interview, started on his Apprenticeship.

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.

Louis' 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. Louis has got his full fork lift truck licence and so is often engaged in the loading and unloading of wagons. Louis 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 Louis' Skills Company assessor, Ged Leckey came to visit him on site about once a month to assess his progress and set him assignments.

Louis said:

"Ged was really helpful and very easy to get on with. The assignments were always directly relevant to my job and if I had any problems with them, he would always be able to help me. I feel like I've learned a lot through my Apprenticeship, and I'm looking forward to continuing to develop my skills. Eventually, I'd like to build up my knowledge of the IT side of the business and become a fully qualified field engineer."

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."

"Louis has done really well since he joined us. He's a confident young man, and is very keen to learn new skills. He's attended several manufacturers' training courses, so his knowledge is growing all the time. He's hard-working and conscientious, and has qualified for a bonus that we pay to staff who have no time off sick in a year. If he continues in this way, there's no reason that he can't develop a very successful career."