

CASE STUDY: Employability

Ryan Jones, Harwich

BACKGROUND

I studied motor vehicle engineering at college but when I finished the course, I found it difficult to get a job in the industry. So my advisor at the Jobcentre suggested I get involved with a Prince's Trust programme called Get Into. As part of that, I did a two-week work experience placement as a construction apprentice at the Mayflower Project in Harwich.

Afterwards, I was put through an Employability Level 1 course through the Mayflower Project and Ixion Holdings. That was for two weeks and was really good. You learn about topics like equality and diversity, working safely and how to get on with other people in the work environment. I hadn't had a job before that so it was good preparation for me; I got a lot out of it.

I came back to the Mayflower afterwards as a volunteer to start working towards an NVQ in site carpentry, but I was then given a wage subsidy from Essex County Council. So I am now on a six-month work programme with the Mayflower working alongside the buildings manager.



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A DAY IN THE LIFE OF...

I am working on an old railway station in Harwich which is being renovated into classrooms and workshops for apprentices. I come in, find out what needs to be done and then get on with it! At the moment I am painting a new set of classrooms. It's nice to work on a project like this which will help other people who are looking for employment.

“I...find out what needs to be done and then get on with it!”

WHAT THE FUTURE HOLDS

I'm not really thinking about the future yet, just about the here and now.