

HARRY IVES

LEVEL 3 MAINTENANCE AND OPERATIONS ENGINEERING TECHNICIAN



Meet Harry Ives, an apprentice at NHS Property Services.

What apprenticeship are you studying and what does the study involve?

I studied Electrical Engineering (Level 3 Maintenance & Operations Engineering Technician) which was primarily site based with day release at college. The study was a mix between classroom-based and hands on learning mixed with a large amount of electrical theory.

Why did you want to do the apprenticeship?

I wanted to formalise previous skills I had accrued during my career and be able to bridge gaps in my skill set so that I could become a multi skilled engineer.

What is your current role?

My current role is Multi Skilled Technician

How did you get into your current role?

I transferred into this role by TUPE*, I started here as a combustion technician with skills in building fabric, plumbing and basic electrical.

*Transfer of Undertakings (Protection of Employment) regulations.

What has been your proudest achievement on your apprenticeship to date?

Most definitely passing the exam that included the maths work. As maths was never my strong point in school and I struggled at times through the course with more complex things like Pythagoras and Algebra.

What do you want to do once you complete your apprenticeship?

I would like to progress my learning further by getting involved with controls, instrumentation, and Building Management Systems as I feel this would tie in all my other skills together and bring an aspect to the business that we currently don't deliver in house, as well as have a positive environmental impact.

What would you say to someone considering an apprenticeship?

Always be inquisitive and always keep asking questions because everyone has some knowledge along the way worth knowing.

What is exciting about your role?

The varied nature of it. I am now a Multi Skilled Technician so I can put different trade skills I've learnt into different jobs so it is always interesting.

What made your application to the role / the apprenticeship successful?

Honestly, I just kept asking to go on different courses. I've always been open to learning and never turn down an opportunity to learn new skills. I think the willingness my previous line managers have seen in me to want to learn has always been beneficial when applying for new courses. I have now progressed to an internal transitional development programme "Aspiring Managers" and completing my apprenticeship has made me think about different development opportunities and future progression.

What would you like to do in the future in work or life?

As my dreams of being a professional ice hockey player are probably over, I would like to keep adding to my skill set and would love to be able to mentor new apprentices and other colleagues that want to learn new skills in the future.

What would you say to your younger self or someone looking to do something different?

Don't feel like you're stuck in job you don't like, it is never too late to learn new skills and from those new skills other doors and opportunities can open.

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