



Callum Whitehurst

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Back when I was in year 9, I started to learn basic electronics for a GCSE. Passing that made me look into electronics more and started to spark my interest. When I saw that in my local area there was a robotics company named KUKA, I wanted to find out more about that sort of industry. I went to college to study electrical engineering, which I found to be very interesting and something I would love to do as a career. In my second year at Dudley College, I was offered to take part in a mentoring scheme; the college asked us to give a company's name and to see if they would be interested in mentoring us. My first choice was KUKA and this started something great for me. I was invited to go to the company for a day to have a look around and see what they did, and it amazed me; I knew then that this was something I wanted to get into.

I was lucky enough to be offered an apprenticeship at KUKA and since day one I have had nothing but 100% support in everything I do. Through a day release at Dudley College, where I am studying maintenance engineering, I am learning mechanical and electrical subjects that are helping me with my work at KUKA, where my main role is maintenance engineering.

I have learnt so much and I am still learning. Having been at the company for just over a year and half, the amount I have learnt is amazing. I have gone from knowing nothing about robots to now knowing almost everything about them; how they work, how they can be programmed, how they can be fixed, and lots more. A part of my job that I particularly love is the travelling: I have been to many different places that I would never have had the opportunity to if it weren't for KUKA.

I want to work on my skills and make them better at KUKA, learning everything there is to know in order to become a successful customer service engineer.

I would recommend doing an apprenticeship to anyone. It gives you the experience of working in an environment that is challenging and hard at times, but it also gives you so many opportunities to further your education in a way that works. As you work through the week, you have a day at a college or a training provider where you learn parts of your job and further your education. The more education you have, the better opportunities you will be offered in the future.

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