

Mentoring and Work Experience at West Midlands UTC



Jack Perry—Year 13

WMUTC's mentoring system has been really useful and helpful for me. When I first started at the UTC I was really interested in the idea of having an employer in the industry who will be in contact with me and steer me in the right direction. The mentor I had been paired with was a really nice person and was very into the idea of mentoring me.

I was paired with Philip Pointon who worked for the roof truss company of Pasquill, a subsidiary of Saint Gobain. Phillip remained in contact with me very consistently. He would give me advice on situations, tell me if the decision I was making was right or wrong and would review my work that I would send him.

When it came to my first work experience he helped me very quickly to find a place in a CAD design department. This experience was really good for me and helped in both product design and my understanding of other construction type jobs.

Philip then gave me the opportunity of being a roof truss designer located in a department with other designers with the addition of an apprenticeship.

Philip helped gain an interview with his boss Julian where I met with more preparation and focus than when I first had my interview and since then I have a confirmed role as a trainee roof truss designer.

I was really lucky with what a good person Philip was and what he has done for me. I would really advise the mentoring program as it really does help to have a place in the industry rather than being stuck from the very bottom. Working with Pasquill was one of the best things that has happened to me and this has all stemmed from the mentoring program that the UTC has provided for me.

Phillip Pointon—Pasquill

It has been a pleasure to mentor a student from the UTC. While not being a very onerous task, it is nonetheless a very rewarding experience to know that the student gained relevant industry experience and has used his experience to help guide his future career choice. Ultimately, our business has gained not only from widening the experience of our employees by mentoring UTC students, but also by opening up a talent pipeline to the business.