



Why should Lander Automotive win the award?

My name is Owen and I have worked for Lander for the past 2 years. Before this I went to sixth form college and worked weekends at Cadbury World. I had already decided that I wanted a commercial apprenticeship by the end of my first year studying A levels but was unsure what industry I wanted to work in. I stumbled across the Lander Commercial Apprenticeship on the national website and once I had attended my first interview with the Company I knew that this was the company I wanted to work for.

Lander has given me real responsibility from day 1 and this allowed me to develop my skills and knowledge whilst also building my confidence of building relationships with colleagues and customers and influencing others particularly with the senior management team.

During my apprenticeship, I studied a level 2 Principles of Sales course that showed me a range of techniques that I am able to use with my customers. In September, last year even though I was coming into the last 6 months of my apprentice Lander allowed me to be able to start a two-year Level 3 Principles of Engineering course at a local college to be able to expand on my engineering knowledge.

While completing both of these course I have been given the opportunity to have internal training provided, including contract law and finance training.

I have been involved in significant projects including the rebranding of the company, for the first time in 25 years. Even though I was only an apprentice I was part of a team of only 4 other people, showing me that the management team had confidence that I was able to get involved on the project.

In July last year, the decision was made for me to be able to enter the EEF Business Apprentice of the Year award. This was something that I never believed I was capable of winning however, after a couple of meetings and starting to put a portfolio together I realised what I had really learnt from the experienced team around me. I successfully won the Midlands title which if it wasn't for the support from the team in every function at Lander I would not have been able to achieve.

I have now completed my apprenticeship and have settled into a Account Manager position that comes with its challenges and has its bad days but anything that is worth trying for in life is never easy. I would not be in this position today if it was not for Lander Automotive.

Lander Automotive is and will continue to be a great employer for not only experienced employees but also apprentices new to the automotive world just like I was two years ago. With the opportunity to learn from an extremely talented and experienced team, there is no reason as to why Lander will not continue to be the perfect place for apprentices to start their career.

Owen Jenkins
Account Manager

16 March 2017

My Lander Apprenticeship

Before I started my apprenticeship, I was studying A level media, English language and history at sixth form. I then wanted a change and wanted to learn something completely new, refreshing and interesting. This led me into looking for apprenticeships, a load of different options came up but the one that stood out for me the most was the Lander Automotive Level 2 NVQ in performing manufacturing operations and a Level 2 certificate in engineering.

My expectations of the apprenticeship:

I knew that I would learn a lot of new things as it was all completely new for me. I believed I would find it very difficult and be behind most other people but apart from that I really did not know what to expect. However, I picked the work up very quickly and I understood easily and towards the end of my time in the learning centre I was actually helping my peers.

Within the 8 weeks in the learning centre friendships were formed and I gained lots of knowledge, I believe the scheme of the apprenticeship is very effective, as the first 8 weeks your learning what you need to know to complete the other side of the apprenticeship.

After the 8 weeks in the learning centre the next stage of the apprenticeship is the experience of working on the factory floor. The opportunity to have factory floor background and being able to learn and train on different jobs for different processes is very unique as not many people have this amazing opportunity like myself and other Lander apprentices.

The first 4 weeks on the factory floor I was working the AJ200 area, the name is after a series of engine. The environment was very clean due to the high standards of 5S and everyone was very friendly. The team leaders and technicians were incredibly helpful, patient and understanding. I enjoyed learning the different processes and operating machinery, it was something completely different for me.

Whilst on the factory floor I gained some skills that I could take anywhere with me in life.

4 weeks after being on the shop floor I had spoken with Anita Brooks, HR Manager, who had offered me a position in the prototype department due to the progression I had made in the learning centre that she and the tutors seen. I was delighted as engineering is what I had thought of doing after my apprenticeship finished at Lander. I started in the prototype area in December 2016.

Since moving into prototypes I have learnt an abundance of skills:

- Measuring on the ITP (co-ordinate measuring machine)
- Brazing (aluminium)
- Basic knowledge of engineering drawings
- Basic knowledge of the setup of a bender
- Different processes of manufacturing parts
- MIG welding
- Making labels off a computer software
- Leak/pressure testing
- Assembly of parts against an engineering drawing

These skills that I have learned will only continue to grow and develop over the period of time I am at Lander. I hope to continue the end of this year, September 2017, to go on to do another apprenticeship, B-TECH Level 3 manufacturing engineering, to then hopefully pursue another couple of years' study to achieve a Higher National Certificate, (HNC).

Lander create a spectacular opportunity for young adults to be able to kick start their career, they provide the experience that young people like myself need for the future and also aid the transition from school to working life. The company as a whole is progressing within the industry and is offering a chance for more young people to become involved with the industry.

Courtney-Leigh Hoey

C-L Hoey

Studying in the Academy



Trying out Welding



Graduating from the Academy



Now working in the Prototype area



Why should Lander Automotive win the award?

My name is Ashley Jenkins



I started on the apprenticeship scheme at Lander in July 2016 in the first Cohort. (Below)



I believe Lander should receive the award because they help apprentices climb up the ladder quicker and get into the more responsible and challenging jobs. I saw a job advertised internally for a Quality Technician and I applied. I got the job and recently won apprentice of the month, out of all of the Cohorts so far. In the Quality Team I am not the only apprentice that has also applied for a role in the department. Luke from Cohort 3 standing next to me is the other apprentice who applied for a role in quality and got it.



Lander help everyone adjust and get used to the working life in a factory but putting them through tasks which helps them get more knowledge of what goes on in the factory. This helped me to use the knowledge I gained to get my promotion. I am currently completing my NVQ and Lander are paying for an A Level course for me as well.

Ashley Jenkins
Apprentice Quality Technician




I also attended a Careers event at the NEC to talk about the Lander Apprenticeship scheme, with another apprentice Jade. We had lots of interest in the programme.



Graduation from the 8-week academy. Certificate presented by the Operations Director and Managing Director of Lander.