

Apprentice Case Study

CAMERON BARLOW

LEVEL 3 MACHINING ENGINEERING
EMPLOYED BY SILCOMS LTD



SILCOMS

“ I HAD JUST LEFT COLLEGE WITH NO REAL GRADES TO SHOW FOR MYSELF ”

Before starting an Apprenticeship, I went to College studying Film, Media, Psychology and Business. When my 2 years were up, I was left working in a part-time job with little direction and no real grades to show for myself. The fact of being paid, while learning swayed me to do an Apprenticeship, as I realised I could gain skills while bringing in an income.

I am currently employed by Silcoms Ltd, who machine precise parts for plane engines, working to tolerances of 0.0005" at times. Customers include Rolls Royce, Westland Aircraft, Bristol Aircraft, Joseph Lucas, De-Havilland and Armstrong Siddely.

I have a range of responsibilities at work including: machining-CNC, manual grinding, coolant check, First Aider responsibilities, checking components and general cleaning of work areas.

Since doing the Apprenticeship, I have become more confident, not only with work skills but with socialising, I put this down to participating in open discussions we have had about jobs.

In the future, I hope to side step away from machining and potentially move into a maintenance role. This is something that has interested me, as I like to problem solve.