



# The Benefits of Apprenticeships



Sam Foulsham completed an Electrical Apprenticeship with Playfords Limited between 2018 and 2023 – inclusive of Covid-19 disruption.

Sam's understanding and work ethic has been continually recognised by his peers and colleagues and he is often seen mentoring and encouraging others whilst assisting them with his knowledge and skills learnt to date.



**Sam says:** "Before working for Playfords I attended college and completed a 'multi-skills' trade course, which led me to study for a level 2 electrotechnical qualification. I was also working part-time at McDonald's to afford myself a car and a driving license. Having enjoyed the level 2, I decided I wanted to pursue a career in the electrical industry. I applied to JTL's apprenticeship scheme and was soon contacted by Playfords with an invitation to an interview."

Playfords has been providing services to industry and commerce since its establishment and is one of the 100 oldest members of the Electrical Contractors' Association (ECA) having held membership since 1933.

Playfords continues to invest each year in the Electrical Apprenticeship Scheme with applications from anyone at school-leaver age and above.

**“Many of our management team members are products of the investment Playfords has afforded into the apprenticeship scheme having progressed through the ranks, which is something we are extremely proud of.”**

**Andy Downing,**

Group Operations Director, Playfords Limited

**“I started on an industrial site soon after I was accepted for the job and started learning immediately.”**

**Sam says:** "I have taken part in a wide array of different works which has given me the knowledge and confidence I now need to kickstart my future as an electrician. A big driving force behind any training is the people guiding you. All of the Playfords colleagues I have worked with on-site have always been willing to answer questions and show me practically how certain tasks are meant to be completed."

From their very first day of employment with Playfords, apprentices receive the support and guidance from the entire team. Site-based engineering team members guide and mentor them regarding installation methods and techniques whilst the management team members ensure the correct levels of support and variation of works are seen for each apprentice to bring the opportunity to see their ongoing development at each critical stage of their apprenticeship.

**“I would recommend anyone to explore undertaking an apprenticeship in electrical contracting as it is a challenging but seldom boring journey.”**