## Year 1- Mechanical Engineering Apprentice

Based in the head office at Clearwater Court in Reading, Martin is currently studying towards his degree in Process Design and Development Engineering at University College Newbury where he spends one day a week. The other four days are either in the office at Clearwater Court or across Thames Water sites working with the Mechanical Engineering Team.

## Why did you choose to apply for a Thames Water apprenticeship?

The main reason I initially wanted to work for Thames Water was that I could tell from the outside what an interesting place it would be to work. I cant think of another company in the world that would have such a varied asset base, the challenge of integrating existing Victorian infrastructure and new cutting edge technology was one I very much wanted to be part of. Working not only with the countries largest water provider but with the largest generator of renewable energy within the M25 felt like a very exciting prospect.

During the interview process I found that my initial instincts had not been wrong and that on top Thames is a place that is genuinely interested in fostering and developing it's employees. By the end of the process I was left in no doubt that both the technical and cultural environment within Thames was the perfect place for me.

Since I have joined I have seen and worked on so many interesting things and everyone has been exceptionally helpful and welcoming. Thames is if anything a better place to work than I imagined.

## Can you tell me about your life and career journey?

I have had such a wide variety of jobs in the past, I've been a Sales assistant, a Chef, a DJ and even a Poker Player. I've studied photography, philosophy, film and music technology. My interests were overwhelmingly diverse for a long time until I started a Level 3 apprenticeship to be a process technician in the Oil industry. From then on I have been hooked on engineering.

I spent around 8 years in the Oil industry first studying in Aberdeen and then working on an offshore platform. I loved my time there and still miss the cold and rainy nights in the middle of the sea. But, as much as I loved my job, it wasn't challenging me intellectually and I ended up deciding to leave to pursue an engineering degree. Having completed an apprenticeship before, I knew that the apprenticeship programme was the best way for me to get the degree I wanted whilst still being able to work in the sector I loved.



If you're interested in doing an apprenticeship yourself, please contact: joinourfamily@thameswater.co.uk

