

2021/22



Case Study

Engineering Placement
Success with **Jas P. Wilson**



Dumfries and
Galloway College

One step ahead

Manufacturing Engineering NC students Ben Dalling and Craig Batten were selected as part of a programme of study with Jas P. Wilson to enable them to gain hands on, practical experience within a thriving company and show them the real life career opportunities that awaits them after college.

All students on the Manufacturing Engineering NC course were given the chance to prepare a CV and be interviewed for this exciting placement, which ran as a partnership between DYW Dumfries & Galloway, Jas P. Wilson, and Dumfries & Galloway College.

The aim of the interviewing recruitment method was to prepare students for the process of finding employment and to get them in the mindset of how they sell themselves to future employers.



Hands on Experience

After the selection process took place, Ben and Craig were chosen for the placement which lasted two weeks. Jas P. Wilson took on the responsibility of delivering a full unit from the Certificate in Manufacturing Engineering to Ben and Craig but with the difference being they were able to learn in a real work environment. Ben and Craig were supported and mentored by experienced staff at Jas P. Wilson and covered subjects such as Design, Machining, Fabrication & Welding, and were also able to complete their assessment with the business.

In order to complete the unit, Ben and Craig were also given a project which they had to plan, implement, monitor and evaluate to gauge the success of it.

This project encompassed all the learning requirements within the unit and allowed the students to gain all the knowledge and practical skills needed to pass.



The Project Brief

Jas P. Wilson provided a thorough three-stage brief for the students to enable them to work to the best of their ability. The project goal was to “design, select materials, fabricate and carry out a welding and machining process to manufacture a toolbox, a hammer and hammer handle”. Students were encouraged to begin the process drawing freehand to come up with their concept and show creativity and consideration for the design logistics.

This also allowed them to evaluate whether they had time to deliver their chosen design. Students then moved from concept to design using Solidworks.

After the logistics and design had been agreed, the project moved on to the practical stage which saw both students manufacturing their toolboxes and accompanying hammer in accordance with the specification they were given. The final stage of their project saw Ben and Craig providing a storyboard to outline the aims and objectives of their project at each stage and form a conclusion on the completion of their project.

Throughout the unit and the project, Ben and Craig were provided with the underpinning theory and the practical skills from staff at Jas P. Wilson, which allowed them to work with confidence and gain invaluable skills from the industry. Dumfries & Galloway College's longstanding good working relationship with Jas P. Wilson meant that the college knew this was an excellent partnership to embark on and trust staff at Jas P. Wilson to deliver this unit to students. It allowed Ben and Craig to build their confidence, address any gaps in their learning and improve them before returning to college, whilst also gaining insight into the workplace in which they hope to enter after graduating from college.

Summary

The placement at Jas P. Wilson served to cement that both Ben and Craig want to enter a career in the engineering industry and each of them have now gained an edge over their peers in terms of employability with this insightful experience.



We are delighted to have been involved with this project, it proves beyond doubt the benefits of integrated training; And... from an employer's perspective, we are recruiting people who have the right skillset, with experience, and an industry endorsement, making them very employable!



Billy Wilson | Jas P. Wilson



JAS P WILSON
FOREST MACHINES

“ The overall evaluation of the placement was that of a resounding success – for college staff, Jas P. Wilson and most importantly the students who are now better placed to gain employment and with an idea of the job role they will one day be undertaking. This short, intensive mode of learning has been identified as being suited to students who are self-motivated and who have an idea of the direction they’d like their career to take and is something the college will look to replicate again with Jas P. Wilson and other trusted organisations in the region. ”



Douglas Dickson | Vice Principal Learning, Skills and Student Experience



“ There are some great career prospects in Engineering and Manufacturing; The combined resources of Businesses and Colleges working together in close cooperation for the benefit of the student, and the sector, is the future! – By utilising the best local resources each partner has on offer, it affords individuals the best learning platform, and employment prospects. ”

Drew Easton | Jas P. Wilson



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