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JCT600

Yorkshire Motor Dealership Launches its own School Leaver Training Programme



JCT600 has welcomed the first recruit to join its new recruitment and training programme developed for school leavers. Each year, the Bradford-based motor business plans to select a small number of young people who will undergo an intensive year long paid internship designed to give a comprehensive insight into the motor industry.

Eighteen year old Rhys Leighton of Ilkley joined JCT600 after completing his 'A' Levels at Woodhouse Grove School in Rawdon. Based at the group's head office in Apperley Bridge, Bradford, Rhys will also spend time at JCT600's dealerships in order to gain an overview of all areas of the business including HR, finance, sales and property. The entire programme will focus on understanding the central role that customer service plays in the business.

"Traditionally, the motor industry has not been an obvious choice for young people , partly because of the lack of professional qualifications directly leading to entry and also the scarcity of specific training programmes designed for school leavers," explains group HR director of JCT600, Graham Clark. "At a time when rising university fees combined with a lack of graduate employment are making many bright young people look at alternative career paths, we felt that launching a paid year-long internship for 18 year olds would be a great way of attracting and nurturing the best young talent.



media relations and profile

“It is crucial that we have high calibre, enthusiastic young people rising up through the business and by investing in their development, we will be able to ensure that they embrace the JCT600 culture and principles of good practice, with a particular focus on providing outstanding customer service.”

Graham continues: “We were really impressed with Rhys’ CV – as well as a sound academic record, he also showed commitment playing in various sports teams as well as being a member of Wharfedale Air Cadets. It was clear that Rhys had real potential; we are very pleased with his progress so far and hope to find a permanent position for him when he completes his internship.”

Rhys commented: “I had thought that I would have to go into higher education in order to get a good job, but when I heard of the training opportunity with JCT600, it seemed ideal. The experience I’m gaining from working here is better than anything I could get from university; I’m learning the business from top to bottom and I’m learning from the best.

“I didn’t have a burning ambition to work in the motor industry, but the chance to be trained by a leading company was too good to miss. Not only am I being paid while I train rather than having to worry about student debt, I’m getting fantastic experience with the prospect of a rewarding job at the end of it.”

JCT600 which has its head office in Bradford, is a family business which has grown to employ a workforce of 1,350 people. It has 42 dealerships throughout Yorkshire, Derbyshire, Lincolnshire and the North East and sells 21 of the world’s most respected brands such as Aston Martin, Audi, Bentley, BMW, Ferrari, Maserati, Mercedes-Benz, Porsche and Volkswagen.

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Picture shows: Rhys Leighton with Graham Clark of JCT600

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