

> WHAT ELSE DO I NEED TO KNOW?

Refer back to the Guide or ask your Connexions Personal Adviser for more details or a Modern Apprenticeship application form.

CONNEXIONS

Connexions offer independent and impartial advice on:

- > Career direction
- > Training and work opportunities
- > Further and higher education

Freephone
0800 358 3888

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ACROSS BOURNEMOUTH, DORSET AND POOLE

BDPLSC/MAMANU/09/03



Learning+Skills Council
Bournemouth, Dorset and Poole

MODERN APPRENTICESHIPS



MANUFACTURING & ENGINEERING

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2003/04

Thinking of a job in manufacturing & engineering?

Get your career off
to a flying start with a

APPRENTICESHIP

*"I am pleased with
what I have achieved.
I hope other girls will
take up a career in
engineering."*

Leanne Carter

> WHAT'S THE JOB ABOUT?

Manufacturing and engineering are about designing, creating and maintaining equipment and products. There are a variety of different careers available - from electrical, mechanical and service engineers to assembly line and machine operators.

The term 'engineer' covers anyone involved in the design, production and maintenance of anything from aeroplanes to cooling systems. Engineers work with a range of materials - including metals, plastics and fibreglass and use traditional tools like screwdrivers and spanners and modern computers.

You could work on a drawing board, using exact measurements to design a product or component or you could work as a biomedical engineer in a laboratory. To become a chartered engineer and control large projects, you will need a great deal of experience and qualifications.



> **WHAT HAPPENS DAY TO DAY?**

Starting engineering, your main job will be to look, listen, learn and ask questions of the professionals around you. Precision and accuracy are key, so you will have to assist your colleagues as much as possible until you have mastered the basic skills.

Manufacturing involves making things. Businesses range from small companies making limited items to large organisations mass-producing chewing gum. Manufacturing companies need production workers, assemblers, packers and quality testers.

Production line workers are involved in carrying out one part of the overall construction. For example you could be responsible for putting windscreen wipers onto cars.

Others work in the management side of manufacturing, which involves quality control, personnel and product development.

Speak to a Connexions
Personal Adviser on:
0800 358 3888
to discuss your options.

> **HAVE I GOT WHAT IT TAKES?**

Engineering requires a good eye for detail and a genuine interest in how things work. For manufacturing you will need an even temperament, especially if you are carrying out a repetitive job. For both areas, you must enjoy working as part of a team.

> **WHAT ARE THE PROS AND CONS?**

Careers are suitable for both sexes and many women are pursuing careers in engineering and manufacturing. As you progress, financial rewards increase and some engineering jobs are very well paid.

Some jobs can be repetitive, in noisy and pressured surroundings, but it depends on which area of work you are involved in.

As an engineer, you will be expected to keep up with all the latest technology in your field.

> **WHAT'S GOING ON IN MY AREA?**

Manufacturing involves a large percentage of Dorset's workforce in a range of different industries from initial production to high-tech companies.

> LEANNE CARTER

Leanne Carter has completed her Modern Apprenticeship in engineering.



She also won an Apprentice of the Year award at Park Engineering in Weymouth, where she has worked since leaving school.

Leanne developed an interest in engineering after achieving a GNVQ in Manufacturing and considers herself lucky to have been given a work placement at Park Engineering.

Leanne, whose work involves setting up machines to produce parts to given specifications, says: *"I am pleased with what I have achieved and know there will be lots of directions I can take in this industry. I hope other girls will be encouraged to take up a career in engineering."*

> SHAUN COLES

Shaun Coles is a Modern Apprentice at WestWind Air Bearings.



Shaun is in his third year and is just about to finish his NVQ level 3 in engineering. But it doesn't stop there. He is about to start studying for his HNC which if he does well and wants to he can go to university and take a degree in engineering.

When he was at school Shaun was always interested in practical things: *"I enjoyed messing around with cars and doing practical things. I got good grades at GCSE and I stayed on for a year. But it wasn't what I wanted to do. I saw the advert in the paper for Modern Apprenticeships and applied."*

During his first year Shaun worked in the training school on site, learning engineering techniques. The second year was spent in the manual grinding section and Shaun is currently working in repairs.

"I will stay here after I have finished my Modern Apprenticeship. I enjoy my workmates and it's close to home."