

**Liam Bibby**  
**Age 19**  
**Started Date September 2005 - Electrician**



My apprentice training began in September 2005, I had applied during the previous year for a job as an apprentice electrician with various companies, however when the time came to choose between the job offers (Sellafield BNFL and BAE Systems), I chose BAE, due to its reputation for a high standard of training, (and it was only a ten minute walk from my house)!

The next six months were spent undertaking various tasks at Furness College, so that I could complete an NVQ level 2 in Performing Engineering Operations, running parallel to this we had been assigned to a training co-ordinator, who would "look after us" during the following years, until we became qualified.

After completing my NVQ in March 2006 I began to work full time in the Devonshire Dock Hall (DDC), where I developed my skills readying me for an NVQ Level 3 in Electrical Marine Engineering, which I began in September 2006. This involved attending college one day a week undertaking a City and Guilds Level 2 in Electrotechnical Technology and Domestic Installation, learning about the Electrical regulations and the scientific principles behind being an electrician I completed this in July 2007. Whilst doing this I was moving around the different areas of the business, working alongside skilled trades persons learning the "on the job" side to the business. I have worked mainly on the Astute class submarines, in all areas (ranging from the Engine Room to the Command Deck) installing and testing various electrical systems and equipment.

In September 2007 I began my City and Guilds level 3 in Electrotechnical Technology including inspection and testing. This involved learning the requirements for the Inspection and Testing of Installations and a more complex look at the scientific principles of electronics. While completing the past two years I have also been undertaking an NVQ Level 3 in Marine Engineering which by May 2008 was complete and verified. I completed my City and Guilds Level 3 in June 2008 and with this I had completed my Apprentice training. On the 8<sup>th</sup> of September 2008 I officially qualified as an electrician.

However this was not to be the end of my training, I have just begun my Bridging course, which will enable to undertake a Higher National Certificate in Engineering.

During this time I was nominated for the Queen's Silver Medal Award which is run by the Worshipful Company of Shipwrights. References were provided by my Team Leaders and Managers and from our Managing Director from which I was selected to go on a week long survival course at Kielder Forest in Northumberland. This course was to show both how we worked as a team and how we coped with leading a team. After attending Kielder Forest we were given feedback on how we performed and six of us were nominated to go onto the finals in London where we were interviewed and then final positions were decided. I finished first and won the prestigious Queens Silver Medal.