

# ENGINEERING APPRENTICESHIPS WITH THE MET POLICE

## MEET CALLUM, A LEVEL 3 ENGINEERING TECHNICIAN APPRENTICE

### Why did you choose to do an apprenticeship?

When I was younger, I struggled to work out what I wanted to do. The majority of people around me went to university and I got a place at Portsmouth University, but I realised I had no passion for that path. An apprenticeship allows me to earn money while working towards a qualification, giving me time and freedom to figure out my end goal, while always having a backup option in life.



**METROPOLITAN  
POLICE**



### What does your role involve?

My role within the Metropolitan Police varies each day depending on which department I am stationed in at the time. Currently, I am working in electrical engineering, focusing on research and innovation, producing or improving technology to be used in our unique working environment and often on highly sensitive jobs. This will involve following wiring/engineering diagrams to produce the equipment using the provided components with surface mounting techniques.

### What is a typical working week like?

My working day consists of 36 hours across five days. I tend to work 7am-3pm, but start times are flexible, as long as the hours are completed, which is very convenient. My responsibilities depend on the department and projects I'm involved in at the time. Previously, my responsibilities were to start the day updating workshop spreadsheets and logs on the progress of the project, then being in charge of my own time to strip the electrics from multiple units, test and record the results of the components and conduct a handover to another department for the subsequent stages.

### How is your apprenticeship delivered?

My apprenticeship is delivered by Milton Keynes college. It is a long distance to travel, but the Metropolitan Police have been very supportive of this and have provided days to focus on studying and college work throughout the course. In the first year, we were required to be in college three days a week, in the second and third year we were required to be in college one day a week. Our college tutor carries out reviews for checking progress and setting targets, which are either in person or online.

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### Who or what inspires you and what are your goals?

My inspiration is my family. I am the youngest in a large family who have all been successful in their respective career paths, which is my driving force.

My ultimate goal is to be in a stable position where I am a key member within my workplace, and I have a comfortable personal life that involves people I can share it with. The first step I have taken to this would be my apprenticeship and my proudest achievement is becoming a homeowner at the age of 24.

### What do you do in your free time?

I play a lot of sport in my free time; football, badminton, tennis and golf and am currently renovating my house, which takes up the majority of my free time. I always try to meet up with friends when we can. I rarely have a day to just sit down and relax, but that's what I enjoy. I used to play a lot of video games which I like a lot, but due to other commitments this has taken a backseat.

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### What would your advice be to students and parents / carers about apprenticeships?

Apprenticeships are a great way to get into a career path and start earning while working towards a qualification that can open up a huge network of paths to take in the future. It teaches valuable life skills early on and is honestly truly enjoyable. A lot of employers looking for apprentices will be focused mainly on personality than existing experience and qualifications as they will be teaching all the skills you need during the course. Use this to your advantage to pick a path that you are interested in and eager to give it your all.



Find out more about Engineering apprenticeships with the Met Police here:

<https://amazingapprenticeships.com/met/>

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