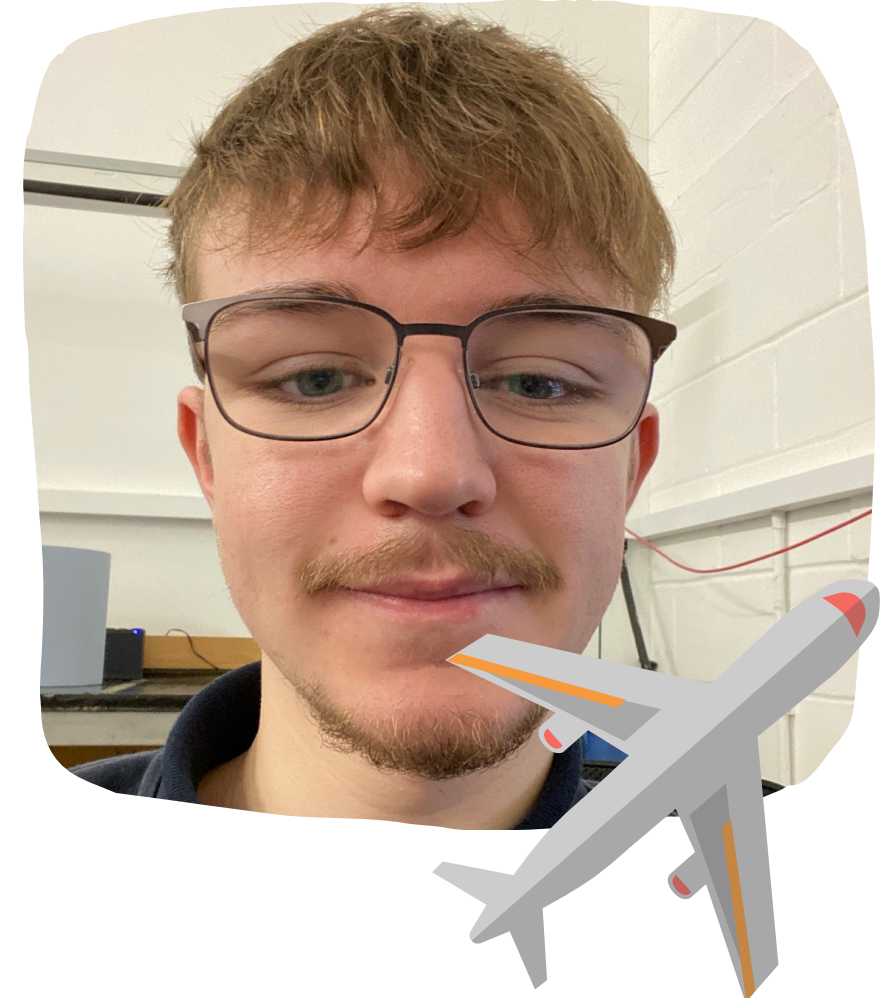


JAMES WILDE

APPRENTICE ELECTRICIAN, RAYTHEON UK



I started my apprenticeship with Raytheon, one of the largest aerospace, intelligence services' and defence manufacturers, straight from school at 16 after taking an interest in electrical work during work experience. My apprenticeship began with a full year of academic and technical learning at Coleg Cambria, it then progressed to work-based learning once I had started my level 3 NVQ work.

I found my apprenticeship by going to various careers events and looking online after receiving information from both the events and friends/family who worked in the industry.

My daily routine varies, Most days I speak to the team on shift to find out what's been happening in work while I've been gone, and what my task is for the day. The best part about this is I find myself doing something different every day as I am not restricted to just one area. One day I could be assembling harnesses in the workshop and another day I could be on the aircraft routing cabling through the rear bay.

I enjoy leading an active life by regularly going to the gym and slowly gaining new hobbies. Currently, I am beginning to take an interest in climbing and skiing after being asked to join in different sessions. I would like to become qualified and skilled in various electrical sectors.

Apprenticeships are the best way to get into an industry, they allow you to learn a trade on the job, sometimes with little or no knowledge of the subject, all whilst earning a wage.

