

Aston Aldred

HIGHLY COMMENDED - APPRENTICE LEVEL 2-3 OF THE YEAR



Aston Aldred, a Level 3 Engineering Technician apprentice at Electrium Sales at Wigan and Leigh College, has emerged as an outstanding figure in the world of engineering apprenticeships. Aston has overcome personal challenges with dyslexia and has also thrived in a fast-paced technical environment by consistently delivering innovations.

His contributions range from the development of 3D-printed tools and reverse-engineering legacy components, to leading sustainability and automation initiatives. They have made a lasting impact on his organisation and community.



As a mentor, leader, and technical innovator, Aston's achievements reflect the highest standards of excellence and serve as a powerful example of what apprenticeships can accomplish.

Can you tell us a bit about your apprenticeship journey so far, what led you to choose this path, and what has the experience been like?

I started my apprenticeship as a design engineer because I've always wanted to know how things work and how they are manufactured. My experience has been incredible. I have learned from multiple talented individuals, and with all this support, it's enabled me to unleash my creativity into a variety of different projects.

You've been recognised for adapting to a high-pressure, technical environment.

What challenges have you faced along the way, and how have you overcome them?

How has your apprenticeship at Electrium Sales Ltd and Wigan & Leigh College helped you grow, both personally and professionally?

Being described as a role model is a big achievement, what does that recognition mean to you, and how do you hope to inspire others considering apprenticeships?

One of the most challenging obstacles I faced in my apprenticeship was the ability to run my own project and being able to communicate with all my team members effectively, whilst gaining positive results. To overcome this, I organised regular team meetings to make sure the project ran smoothly.

Electrium (A Siemens Company) has played a key role in my development by giving me the opportunity to lead projects and build essential professional skills.

Additionally, Wigan & Leigh College has supported me throughout my course, equipping me with the core engineering knowledge and practical skills needed to succeed in the industry.

Being described as a role model means a lot to me. It shows that all my work that I'm doing in work and outside of work has a positive influence on the people around me.

I hope that by sharing my experience, I can encourage others to consider apprenticeships as a genuine and rewarding route into their careers. It's a chance to build practical skills, gain real-world experience, and grow professionally in a supportive environment.

If my journey helps someone feel more confident about taking that step, then I'm proud to have played a part in that

**Looking ahead,
what are your
future goals, and
how has your
apprenticeship
helped shape your
ambitions?**

Looking ahead, my main goal is to successfully complete my apprenticeship and, hopefully, progress into a management role where I can lead my own projects and team. I'm keen to take on more responsibility and continue building both my technical and leadership skills.

My apprenticeship has played a key role in shaping these ambitions. It's given me practical experience, exposed me to real engineering challenges, and allowed me to learn directly from experienced professionals.

Through this, I've come to understand the importance of not just technical knowledge, but also communication, teamwork, and attention to detail in delivering successful outcomes.

"Aston continues to excel in his role, earning a strong reputation as a highly competent and dedicated Engineer. His exceptional performance has been recognised both internally through company award and externally, having won a prestigious apprenticeship award from college."

Aston has also gone above and beyond by excelling in the innovation programme, showcasing his forward-thinking approach. In addition to his technical achievements, Aston serves as an ambassador and role model for younger apprentices and is a highly valued member of the Product Design & Development team. His commitment, leadership, and innovation clearly set him apart as an outstanding apprentice. Throughout his apprenticeship, Aston has demonstrated outstanding progress"

APPRENTICESHIP TEAM
at Wigan & Leigh College

"Aston is a talented apprentice who excels in problem-solving, creatively resolving complex engineering issues. He demonstrates strong leadership by initiating projects and mentoring peers."

As an innovator, he designed and 3D-printed a new CAD part to boost production efficiency. He also communicates effectively and is dedicated to continuous professional growth, benefiting himself and his team."

PHIL NOON
Product Design Manager
at Electrium