



## What and where I'm studying:

I'm Keira Davies and I'm currently a 2nd year apprentice studying the Installation Electrician and Maintenance course at Gloucestershire College working towards being a qualified electrician

## Current role:

I'm responsible for maintaining our fleet of mobile hot water and steam boilers, along with associated equipment and supply cables. Part of my role requires me to conduct electrical inspection and testing on all our equipment to help bring the fleet up to a high standard of electrical safety.

I've also been involved in the wiring of control panels, including a panel which was fitted to one of our steam boilers.

My day-to-day routine includes conducting thorough visual inspections, Electrical Installation Condition Reports and testing of our hire leads. My duties require me to be very thorough so all equipment that leaves the depot is in a safe and tidy condition. I take pride in my attention to detail and am constantly working to improve my skills as I progress in my career.

### What I wish I knew sooner:

Something I really wish I'd understood sooner is how important it is to make mistakes. Making mistakes is the best way to learn and progress. It's important to see them as lessons so you can fix them, you don't make them again and develop high standards.

## Best tip:

The best thing I can say is not to fear trying new things or taking a different path to your friends. Take the different route if it's something your mind and heart is telling you to do. Look for opportunities and go to interviews and give it your all. You should work hard to get what you want. Talk to your friends, family, careers advisors, even have the confidence to reach out to employers and discuss what you want, and they'll be able to guide you in the right direction.

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#### **About Carrier**

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### Something I found difficult but overcame:

I didn't understand how anything worked at the start of my apprenticeship. I struggled with trying to hold information and remembering what each component is called and what it did. This knocked me back mentally and made me feel like I wasn't trying hard enough.

But of course, this was completely normal. Nobody is expected to know everything in the first month. But that's where my team and mentor were great. They supported me and helped me go over everything each day until it sunk in – now I know what an RCD does!

# Favourite part of my apprenticeship:

The thing I like most about my apprenticeship is the people I've met and worked with. Having a good supportive team around you makes coming to work and learning new things enjoyable.

## Most challenging aspect:

The biggest challenge for me was overcoming my preconceptions of being a young woman in a male dominated industry. Being constantly surrounded by men, I used to feel nervous and thought that they're all stronger or they can do things quicker than me. But it's not like that at Carrier. I've always felt included, and I know that would be the same for anyone, no matter who they are.

# Aspirations for the future:

I'm going to keep working hard and progress with my work to show I can do it. I hope I can encourage others to work hard and achieve their dreams, and be an inspiration for other apprentices, particularly young women, to show them how far I've come in just over a year.

