



How his
Apprenticeship
helped Leigh recover
from an early career
disappointment.

Leigh Dorell is 27. After a number of false starts at a career, he has now completed an Apprenticeship in Customer Service with Magnet Trade and has a bright future ahead of him, according to his boss.

Leigh says:

"I left school early, at age 15, with the intention of doing a long-term work placement and training with a graphic design agency. The idea was that I would complete my training as a graphic designer then go on to do a degree."

A year into his training with the design agency, they lost a big contract and could no longer fund Leigh's training, so he was made redundant.

Couldn't face returning to full-time education

Leigh tried for a place at college, but after a year working full time, he couldn't face returning to full-time education so he started to work with his dad, a mechanic.

Magnet Trade

After working as a mechanic for several years...Leigh moved to another part of London to live with his partner, with whom he now has a baby boy...and applied for a

job with Magnet Trade.

Almost as soon as he started his job at Magnet, he was offered the chance of an Apprenticeship in Customer Service, through training provider CBE Training, so he seized the opportunity.

Adding to his CV

"Since I don't have many GCSEs to boast about because my early career as a graphic designer didn't come to anything, any qualifications I can add to my CV seem sensible, so I began an Apprenticeship in Customer Service."

A year later and Leigh has an NVQ 2 in Customer Service, and a thorough knowledge of kitchens. He also has a very supportive boss in Mark Charles.

"This is the first job I've had where I feel that I'm really supported by both my colleagues and the company."

If you would like further information about Apprenticeships in South London call the Apprenticeship Hotline on 0800 169 4824 or visit www.apprenticeships.org.uk