

## ALYSSA LEVEL 3 MAINTENANCE & OPERATIONS ENGINEERING TECHNICIAN APPRENTICE

**SAIGER ENGINEERING  
SERVICES LTD**

### What does an average day look like for you?

I have completed all my practical training at SETA during the first year of my apprenticeship, so I am now at work in the family engineering business - Saiger Engineering Services Ltd.

An average day involves drawing up a project and measuring all the parts that are required to manufacture it. I will then cut all the lengths of metal, deburr them and set them up for welding. Depending on what is needed, I may MIG weld them together, clean the welds, degrease them and then ultimately paint the item.

### What personal qualities do you think are important to do your job?

I feel that you need to have a positive attitude, be reliable, be able to use your initiative, have the confidence to have a go, as well as being professional.

I think that you also need to believe in yourself. I didn't think that I was going to do very well in the CAD rotation, but I persevered and was so pleased when I passed.



### How was your time spent at SETA?

I was at SETA for a total of 20 weeks doing practical rotations. Each week was very busy with four days in the workshop doing the practical, hands-on side of things, in a variety of engineering subjects that will be useful for my role at work. I did Mechanical Maintenance, Machining, Fluid Power and Benchfitting. I also made a large butterfly, which I'm proud of, from mild steel using a plasma cutter during the General Fabrication and Welding rotation.

Over the course of two years I will be attending SETA once a week to complete a Level 3 BTEC Diploma in Advanced Manufacturing Engineering (Development Technical Knowledge) which is the theory part of my apprenticeship.



MY BUTTERFLY! 

### What has been your personal highlight so far?

My apprenticeship journey has only really just begun, but I love the fact that I have inherited tools from retired tradesman that have been used for so many years. They have seen so much work and manufactured so many brilliant things, even before I started using them!

I also love the job satisfaction that I get on a day-to-day basis when I complete challenging jobs. I can stand back and say "I made that", which is a great feeling. Everything that I am learning on my apprenticeship, both at SETA and in the work place has got me here.

### How did you first become interested in engineering?

When I was 15 I did my school work experience with Dad and really enjoyed it. He has inspired me since I was young when I would watch him tinkering with cars, and help when I could. It's because of him that I wanted to be able to fix my own cars or motorbikes or be able to manufacture my own parts to fix them.

When I left school I actually went to Sparsholt College and did a course in Animal Care, but knew that this wasn't really for me, so when I had the opportunity to go and work in engineering, I jumped at it!

INTERNATIONAL WOMEN  
IN ENGINEERING DAY