

**GEORGE LEWIS**

**APPRENTICE  
TO ACCOUNT MANAGER**



In this interview, George shares his experience joining Centerprise on an Apprenticeship Programme.

**You completed an Apprenticeship with Centerprise, can you describe how this came about and why you chose to join Centerprise over any another employer?**

Representatives from YoYoTech (a company part of the Centerprise Group), came to visit my college (Basingstoke College of Technology), to share information about their Apprenticeship programme for students. I applied for the Apprenticeship and was contacted to advise me that I had been awarded the Apprenticeship. I chose Centerprise as the role available was very suited to my interests, and I went in the Apprenticeship Programme with the knowledge that I was able to expand into other areas in a diverse business.

**What role did you initially undertake at Centerprise and what did this involve?**

My initial role was Technical Apprentice. My primary job was to construct the PC orders that came through for YoYoTech. When I was not doing this, I arranged for parcels to be shipped out and provided our customers with telephone support.

**What skills did you develop during your Apprenticeship?**

Sales and customer support skills, confidence when speaking with and advising customers over the phone, and product knowledge.

**What qualifications did you achieve during or via your Apprenticeship?**

90 Credit Diploma in Computer Science, Level 3 Technical Apprenticeship in IT & Technology.

**What support did Centerprise provide?**

My initial contract allowed me to effectively work part time, while I finished my 90 Credit Diploma, which required considerable time and effort to achieve. Striking this balance was extremely helpful.

**Your Apprenticeship lead to permanent employment, can you describe how your career has developed since completing your Apprenticeship with Centerprise?**

I have been employed as a sales person for YoYoTech within Centerprise's Private Sector division. My job here is expanding into other areas of the Private Sector division, namely Adam Continuity.

**What was your greatest success at Centerprise?**

Taking over a primary sales role, straight after completing my Apprenticeship.

**What was your greatest challenge at Centerprise and how did you overcome this?**

My greatest challenge at Centerprise was during the months I and others were tasked with building 50 SEGA arcade machines. The work was gruelling and at times, frustrating. We overcame this by splitting and distributing the work evenly, swapping tasks and keeping the work area organized to the best of our ability.

**What life lessons did you learn whilst at Centerprise?**

Everything is easier when it is organised.

**How would you describe the culture at Centerprise?**

Professional, relaxed.

**If you had the chance again, would you follow the same path and if so, why?**

Knowing I would end up here with a permanent position, yes. I have no reason to consider different outcomes – I am happy.