

# MAX AGER

Apprentice Electrical  
Design Engineer

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## Why did you apply to NG Bailey/Freedom?

I chose the business because they're an industry leader with a successful history. What really stood out was their commitment to their projects and employees. The opportunity to work on diverse projects, from airports to data centres, and to contribute to these projects in a way that made a difference was a major draw. Their reputation for investing in people, especially through their apprenticeships, also played a significant role in my decision.

## How did you find the recruitment process?

The process was in depth and easy to follow. It began with an online application, where I detailed my academic background, prior experience and enthusiasm for engineering. As a successful candidate, I was asked to undertake a telephone interview and then invited to an assessment day. This included group exercises, problem-solving tasks, and a one-on-one interview. The assessment day was a good way to meet fellow applicants and get a sense of the company. The entire process was designed to evaluate not only my technical skills but also my potential for growth and contribution to the company's values.

## What does a typical day look like?

My days vary depending on whether I'm on site or in the office. On site, I might be assisting with detailed surveys of existing underground services, electrical testing in and around substations, and setting out high voltage cable routes. In the office, I will usually be working on design drawings and documentation, predominantly on AutoCAD. I also attend regular project meetings both with the internal design team and our external clients, and there are lots of opportunities for additional training modules that enable me to develop within my role.

## What is the best thing about your apprenticeship?

One of the best things about my apprenticeship is the sense of community. The business actively encourages their apprentices to network and support each other and their commitment to community engagement through volunteering days also resonates with me. Combining this community involvement with my engineering interests has been very rewarding.

## What do you enjoy most about working for NG Bailey/Freedom?

For me it's the opportunity to learn and grow in my role and as an individual. The business provides a supportive environment where I can challenge myself, take on new responsibilities, and develop my skills with plenty of people to go to if I get stuck. I'm surrounded by experienced professionals who are always willing to share their knowledge when I have questions to ask.

## What advice would you give those looking to join the industry or become an apprentice?

My advice is to make sure you're applying for something you are interested in and think you will enjoy as apprenticeships are a great way to gain valuable skills, build a strong network, and start a lasting career so you want it to be something you enjoy.

You also need to be prepared to work hard, ask lots of questions, and take initiative by looking for opportunities to help beyond your assigned tasks. Reading around the subject as much as you can helps demonstrate enthusiasm and makes you stand out.