

Amy Farley, Claims and Compliance Manager, Marches Centre of Manufacturing and Technology



Introduction

My name is Amy and I live in Shrewsbury and work at the Marches Centre of Manufacturing and Technology, which is a state of the art training centre for many of Shropshire's engineering and manufacturing companies, including Caterpillar, Grainger & Worrall and Bridgnorth Aluminium. I am married and have a little boy, who is full of energy.

There is nothing we enjoy more than to visit National Trust Parks and go to the beach. We spend most weekends at our caravan and make the most of the beach in all weathers!

Career Background

My working life started at the young age of 15, with a Saturday job at a hairdresser's, where I swept with a dust pan and brush on my hands and knees. Although a hard and unpleasant job this job taught me a lot. Upon leaving school I joined the leisure industry as a Lifeguard and after a year, I moved up the ladder and became Operations Manager for all of the Leisure Services sites across Shropshire.

In 2012 I joined Shropshire Council's Economic Growth team; this is where I became passionate about Economic Growth and funding. Coordinating the Shropshire Growth Hub gave me experience of interacting with many businesses and their challenges and supporting them through them.

My current role with The Marches Centre of Manufacturing and Technology (MCMT) sees me again looking after funding packages to support the business in delivering business growth activities including new skills.

We have developed a package of support to help young people choose the right career path for them. Careers education and guidance is so important in a young person's life, and knowing what you do and don't like is key to making the choice. MCMT supports schools and colleges with advice and taster sessions on engineering and apprenticeships.

My role as an Enterprise Advisor

I joined the Enterprise Advisor team because I believe that good careers advice and experiences are the key to securing jobs in the future. During my time at school there was very little careers advice and that is how I ended up becoming a lifeguard for 2 years earning £2.83 per hour! I was told 'You're a good swimmer become a lifeguard' so I did.

When I was approached about this opportunity, I was pleased the support was there to change the direction of the advice given. I was teamed up with a fantastic school, The Corbet. I was so pleased when meeting the Careers Leader, that they had already had so much in place. My role has been to engage with the school, provide them with some best practices happening across the other schools and provide links to the employers.

We have a pool of talent in Shropshire and to retain this we need young people to know the opportunities locally. I am pleased to be part of this resource for young people and am looking forward to continuing my role to make a real difference.

We ask all businesses that if you would like to support our Schools in finding out about different careers to please get in touch amyf@mcmt.co.uk