

CEGA case study

Gary Brighton
Groundworks Foreman at Aeroparks Development

Site Foreman Gary Brighton describes how training as a ground worker has enabled him to progress his career in construction ...

“I have always liked physical jobs I can get stuck in to – I’m not the sort of person who likes to sit behind a desk. I enjoy making things and being outside, so construction seemed the way forward for me. I started working at Aeropark as a labourer and didn’t have a huge amount of experience to begin with. After working and learning on the job for a while, I knew that this was definitely the career for me so I continued working hard to improve and learn new skills.

Over time, my foreman could see I was capable of doing many of the jobs on my own so I took on more responsibility and was soon training other members of the team. I continued to gain all the necessary plant tickets needed to work on site such as CSCS and CPCS and undertook excavator, dumper, roller, confined spaces and street works training, as well as completing an NVQ in Groundwork. Gradually, through shadowing my Foreman, I started taking on more supervisory duties which included how to run a job and coordinate other workers, and I went on to complete a Site Supervisors Safety Training course (SSSTS).

I progressed on to manage my own site and have been doing so ever since, directing up to 14 men at a time. I get so much pride out of working as part of a team; completing a project such as building a home for someone to live in is really rewarding and to be part managing that process is a huge achievement.”