

inspiring your future



TEAM TESTIMONIALS

MORE THAN JUST AN APPRENTICESHIP, IT'S A CAREER!

Read the journey so far from our team who have either completed an apprenticeship or have progressed their career with The Vella Group

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Succession planning is at the heart of The Vella Group. We want our next managers and senior managers to be recruited from within the Company. We focus on identifying and growing talent to help fill business critical positions in the future. This is done through individual training plans and external leadership and management training.

Richie

GENERAL MANAGER AT PRESTON

Worked at Vella Group since 2014



"I started out as an Apprentice Panel Beater on a 5-year programme. At aged 20, I was awarded Apprentice of the year in the North West and given the opportunity to travel to France for two weeks working in a Bodyshop up in the French Alps. On my return, I chose to stay at the Bodyshop which I had started my career with as a Panel Beater.

A few years later, I was given the opportunity to move into a Quality Control role where I was mentored by an older QC at the Company. For a brief period, I left the Bodyshop I worked in to become a self-employed Panel Beater for a small business but eventually returned to my QC role. Shortly after I progressed into a production manager role and after 8 or so years, I went on to take over the site as the sole Branch Manager.

Despite spending most of my career working at the same Bodyshop, I made the decision to move on into managerial roles elsewhere and this was when I became part of The Vella Group team. Originally working in managerial roles across all the sites, in 2018 I went on to take over the Preston site as the General Manager."

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At aged 20, I was awarded Apprentice of the year in the North West and given the opportunity to travel to France for two weeks working in a Bodyshop up in the French Alps.

INSPIRED?

Our website has lots of information about the apprenticeship programme and the application process but if you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact hr@thevellagroup.co.uk. We are happy to answer any questions you might have!

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Phil

BODYSHOP MANAGER AT WORKINGTON

Worked at Vella Group since 2015



"At aged 16, I started out at a small Bodyshop in Cumbria as an apprentice Panel Beater. From there, I moved to a Bodyshop in Workington working under a motor company until 2009.

A few years later in 2015, the Bodyshop was taken over by The Vella Group and I remained there as a Senior Panel / MET Technician. I have been taking my ATA Panel / MET for the last 12-years, but I have also had the opportunity to gain a wide variety of qualifications including Hybrid, wheel alignment, welding and ADAS.

Since becoming part of The Vella Group team, I have progressed from the shop floor to taking over the site in 2018 as the Bodyshop Manager. The journey has been great and in the vehicle repair industry, job satisfaction is guaranteed every day."

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Graham

PRODUCTION MANAGER AT SKELMERSDALE

Worked at Vella Group since 2009



"I started my career as an Apprentice Panel Beater back in 1987, where I served 14 years as a Panel and MET Technician at a Bodyshop in Blackburn.

As my career progressed, I went on to open my own small garage in Blackburn carrying out repairs and mechanical work for 6 years.

I originally joined The Vella Group in 2009 as a MET Technician at their Blackburn site, before being transferred to the MET team in Skelmersdale site in 2012. Last year I was promoted to Production Manager at Skelmersdale, where I continue to lead the team on the shop floor."

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Rob

PANEL TECHNICIAN AT PRESTON

Worked at Vella Group since 2015



"I started my career at The Vella Group back in 2009 as an Apprentice Panel Beater at their Preston site on a 3-year programme. Once I completed my apprenticeship, I continued working for the Company for a further 2-years on the shop floor.

However, I later made the decision to go and work for a smaller local Bodyshop but after a brief period, returned to The Vella Group. I have remained with the Company since 2015, and I have picked up a lot of skills over the past 10 years. Looking back, starting out as an apprentice can seem daunting, but you find your feet eventually."

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Tom

PAINT TECHNICIAN AT CHESTER

Worked at Vella Group since 2015



"In 2012, when I was 17, I started out as an apprentice Paint Technician working for a small Bodyshop. After just 2-years there, I was eager to leave the Bodyshop but still wanting to continue with my apprenticeship. Luckily, The Vella Group offered me a position at their Chester site and agreed to let me finish my apprenticeship with them through day release.

It was the best move for me as they not only offered me more money whilst on my apprenticeship but the facilities at the Chester site were much nicer than my last place where I didn't even have heating. I have also noticed from the regular health surveillance tests performed on-site, that my lungs have improved since working here.

Since completing my apprenticeship in 2017, I have enjoyed working with skilled guys on the shop floor and getting the opportunity to go on a variety of training courses around the country."

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