

BUSINESS: EGGER

INDUSTRY: MANUFACTURING

PROGRAMME: APPRENTICESHIPS

ACTIVITY: CAREER INSIGHT

EGGER UK APPRENTICESHIPS

As part of Scottish Apprenticeship Week 2020, DYW Ayrshire visited EGGER Group in Auchinleck to speak to some of their apprentices and staff.

Based in Auchinleck, East Ayrshire, EGGER is a modern chipboard production and wood recycling plant. Since opening locally in 1998 EGGER has become an important employer for the region, with more than 100 people working on site.

EGGER believe that working in an environment where you feel valued makes a big difference to your wellbeing and productivity.



A career with EGGER Barony offers a secure job with professional and personal growth. A whole range of initiatives bring the team closer, including their regular training and health programme.

EGGER won SME Apprentice Employer of the Year at the Scottish Apprenticeship Awards 2019. The Auchinleck employer currently has 22 apprentices in its 148 strong workforce – and that number is expected to grow. The firm believes apprenticeships have provided them with the ideal way to address an ageing workforce, while helping youngsters start their careers. The plant expects to lose 70 per cent of its staff over the next ten years primarily through retirement, leading to a focus on training the next generation of talent.

Katrina McEwan, HR Adviser at EGGER said:

"Apprentices have provided us with the ideal way to address an ageing workforce, while helping local young people start their careers"

We spoke to HR Adviser, Katrina on our visit to hear what she had to say about the benefits of apprenticeships.

Watch our full interview with Katrina [here](#).



“ PLANT DIRECTOR HEIKO LICHTBLAU SAID:

It's vital for staff to have the correct skills to work with complex equipment and it can sometimes be difficult to get that by recruiting straight from university.

Each year the company hosts an open day and encourages employees to attend events promoting careers in STEM (Science, Engineering, Maths and Technology).

Egger hopes this will help address a skills gap and encourage more applications from women through involvement in campaigns like #ThisAyrshireGirlCan"



There are a lot of people out there who don't actually understand what engineering means. That's why hosting open days and attending events is vital for us.

"We recently had a Foundation Apprentice come in and she finished the placement knowing her future was specifically in mechanical engineering – that's extremely rewarding for us as an organisation.



On our visit we also interviewed some of EGGER's apprentices and staff to hear about their career journey and the benefits of carrying out an apprenticeship.

Watch our full interviews with them [here](#).

To contact DYW Ayrshire please email: CLAIRE@DYWAYRSHIRE.COM

You can also visit our website at: WWW.DYWAYRSHIRE.COM

OR FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA:

