

AVON

PROTECTION

 **Higher Futures**
SWINDON & WILTSHIRE LEP

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Higher Level Apprenticeship at Avon Protection

Joseph White, 19, is working at Avon Protection based in Melksham on a Higher Level apprenticeship in ICT. He supports colleagues via the helpdesk across the world including the USA, Italy and several UK sites.

We began by asking Joseph about his school background and his experience of apprenticeships previously.

“I attended Wiltshire College for two years completing Level 2 BTEC and Level 3 City & Guilds in Information Technology. I enjoyed the courses a lot but felt I had more to learn and wanted to continue into higher education. My Mum worked at Wiltshire College and put me in touch with the department who dealt with apprenticeships. I acquired more information on apprenticeships and found what is now my current role on the Gov website. The application process was simple regardless of the fact that I had no prior knowledge of apprenticeships. I was interviewed and began my role in November, then my college course commenced in January – but I already feel I have learnt more in these two months than I did in two years at College.”



We asked Joseph what his future ambitions were and what would he tell others about apprenticeships?

“After this two year course I will probably look to complete a degree and would consider doing this via an apprenticeship at Level 5/6. My friend is actually doing the same course as me, but full-time at college, which means they are paying standard fees via student

loans. I am lucky to be getting experience in the workplace and learning about the business at the same time, which I may not have had if I was enrolled full-time. I would say that this is a great benefit of an apprenticeship, as well as the huge amount of work experience you get.”