

Job Title	Mechanical Apprentice Engineer
College:	In Conjunction with Southwest College (Level 5 Engineering (HLA))
Location	Cookstown

WE ARE CDE.

HERE TO CREATE OUR BEST WORLD, A TON AT A TIME.

Sand is a finite resource, and it's running out. Today, population growth and the pace of progress means the world is devouring sand like never before – 50 billion tonnes a year globally. This demand is unsustainable. Together with our customers we have already diverted over 100 million tonnes of waste material from landfill and put it back into the materials market for use in construction; protecting sand & aggregates in areas where natural material reserves are in decline and enabling production to happen closer to markets. We are minimising environmental impact and laying the foundations for the circular economy.

At CDE we work across the natural processing and waste recycling sectors, in five regions, to pioneer industry-leading, world-changing engineering solutions. Our headquarters are in Northern Ireland, and we have offices in the USA, Australia, Austria, and Brazil. For over 30 years we have relentlessly innovated and co-created wet processing solutions – completing over 2,000 global projects – and we're only getting started. Our purpose is to create our best world, a ton at a time; empowering our customers to transform their materials into valuable resources for the betterment of people, planet, and their bottom lines.

Discover more about life at CDE www.cdegroupp.com

Job Purpose

Working with a hands-on approach, the Mechanical Engineering Apprentice will undertake a structured apprenticeship in mechanical engineering, leading to a nationally recognised qualification and accreditation. During Year 1, the apprentice will be based primarily within the factory environment, developing core engineering, assembly, fitting, maintenance, and safety skills while building a strong understanding of CDE products, systems, and processes.

In Year 2, the apprentice will transition to a hybrid role, combining factory-based learning with on-site customer exposure across the CustomCare function. This will provide practical experience in equipment servicing, maintenance, refurbishment, troubleshooting, and customer support activities, enabling the apprentice to apply their technical knowledge in real-world operating environments.

On successful completion of the apprenticeship, the apprentice will be well positioned to progress into a permanent role within the CustomCare business, such as CustomCare Engineer or a Service Engineer, subject to performance and business requirements.

Please note, this job description is not exhaustive as other duties may be required to fulfil the requirements of the role.

Responsibilities:

Practical Learning & Development

- Undertake an apprenticeship programme in mechanical engineering, completing all coursework, assessments, and practical requirements to achieve qualification and accreditation.
- Gain hands-on operational experience by assisting our Engineers on CDE projects in our factory.
- Learn and develop fitting, assembly, and mechanical build skills, including marking out, use of hand tools, and safe equipment operation.
- Maintain 6S standards, completing associated tasks and addressing any findings from 6S audits in your work area, including maintaining a high standard of housekeeping.

Assembly & Engineering Tasks

- Read and interpret engineering drawings and instructions to support assembly and design activities.
- Assist with tracking, identifying, and accounting for parts used in builds and projects.
- Support the gathering, packing, and preparation of parts for customer site installations.
- Follow step-by-step processes for assembling mechanical and electrical components.
- Ensure equipment is set up and used correctly, including full use of safety devices.
Learn to safely and effectively operate our hand tools to complete projects effectively.
- Learn to track and identify parts and ensure all parts are accounted for.
- Carry out all activities safely and responsibly, maintaining a clean and tidy working environment.
- Work collaboratively with Engineers, Technicians, and Project Teams to deliver high-quality outputs.
- Assist Projects with the gathering and packing of parts for customer sites.
- Carry out reasonable requests from the line manager to support departmental or company objectives.

Skills, Knowledge and Experience

Criteria	Essential	Desirable
Qualification/ Attainments	Hold a good level of secondary education with a high degree of numeracy and literacy. Applicants must satisfy the general entry requirements for the course provider, which include GCSE English and Maths at grade C or above. And A Level requirements. Possess and display a keen interest in engineering.	Previous practical or technical experience (school projects, part-time work, engineering clubs, etc.). Basic understanding of mechanical principles or tools.
Special Aptitudes	Highly motivated with a strong desire to learn and progress. Good communication and teamwork skills. Strong attention to detail and commitment to quality. Ability to follow instructions and work safely at all times.	
Disposition	Attentive to detail Dependable and reliable Enthusiastic, energetic self-starter able to work on own initiative	
Circumstances	Clearance to work in UK Ability to drive/ travel as required	

We are a global company and welcome applicants from all countries and backgrounds. Desirable criteria may be used for shortlisting. The Company reserves the right to vary criteria at the shortlisting stage.