

## Providing the Vital Connection

### Riley Robinson, Test and Terminations Apprentice



My name is Riley Robinson, and I'm 18 years old. I'm currently a Test and Terminations Apprentice at JDR's Hartlepool facility while studying for an HNC in Electrical and Electronics at Hartlepool College of Further Education. The course lasts two years, and upon completion, I will receive my HNC qualification. I've already earned my Level 3 qualification, and looking ahead, I definitely want to pursue a degree while continuing to work at JDR. I've heard that JDR offers degree opportunities for apprentices, which is something I'm very interested in.

When it came to deciding between university and an apprenticeship, the choice was clear for me. I've always preferred hands-on work, and an apprenticeship gives me the opportunity to learn through practical experience while also gaining qualifications. It's the perfect balance, and I haven't looked back since.

I applied for an apprenticeship at JDR because it's a local company, and I've always had an interest in green energy. After doing some research, I learned that JDR specialises in subsea high-voltage power cables, which really caught my attention and motivated me to apply.

One of the biggest highlights of working at JDR has been meeting and working with so many different people. I've enjoyed learning from experienced professionals and gaining knowledge about subsea power cables, especially the different testing methods used to ensure the cables' integrity. The combination of practical learning at work and studying at college has been incredibly rewarding.

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Looking ahead, in five years, I see myself continuing my career at JDR. I've really enjoyed my time here, and the company has supported me by putting me through my HNC course. Hopefully, they'll also help me achieve a degree in the future. Whether I stay in Hartlepool or possibly move to Blyth, I see myself growing within JDR and building a strong career in the field.