



AN INTERVIEW WITH NOAH

A PREVIOUS KEITS APPRENTICE

AUGUST 2022



How did you find and start KEITS and your apprenticeship?

I was looking for apprenticeships in the animal care sector after turning down my university offers. I decided that I wanted to follow my heart and passion and do something that would make me happy. I found the advert for my apprenticeship on the government website and applied through them.

What did you study and with what employer?

I started my apprenticeship doing a Level 2 Animal Care qualification at St Luke's School in Hertfordshire. Once I completed my course I was encouraged to further my knowledge and development by taking Level 3 Animal Management, which I studied after accepting a permanent position at the school.

What do you do now?

I am now Livestock and Equine Manager at Sacrewell Heritage Farm and Country Centre, I oversee the running of entire animal department, ensuring the highest standards of animal husbandry and welfare for all equines, farm and small animals on site. I am in charge of a young and eager team, helping them to develop their knowledge, expertise and confidence in our industry.

How did your apprenticeship benefit you?

My apprenticeship gave me the opportunity to not only get a foot into the industry, but also enabled me to develop knowledge, skills and confidence. Without the opportunity I was given, I would not be where I am now. I had an amazing line manager, and fantastic support system at KEITS. I did very well in school and was both encouraged and expected to attend university. An apprenticeship was not an option advertised to me, but it has allowed me to work the most incredible jobs that fill me with satisfaction and happiness everyday. I give massive credit to my KEITS training consultants and my employer, it was truly the best environment to study in, to grow in and I had nothing but support when I chose to go on my new venture.

What would you say to people considering starting an apprenticeship?

To be able to study while working is so beneficial. Not only can you earn while you complete your course, but learning through doing, being hands on and physically preforming what you are writing about helps develop your confidence and knowledge tenfold. Its an option that isn't often spoken about at school, but with industries like animal care you are able to get the qualifications you need to have a very successful career without having to go to university and getting a degree. And for someone like me, who needed to be able to support themselves while developing their career - there was no better option.

Any other advice?

Back when I started my first course, I was 19 with no professional experience in the animal care world, but now I am 25 and in charge of teaching four team members who are just starting out like I was six years ago. It's important to believe in yourself, to work hard and take pride in what you do. Because with the right tools, support, and work ethic you can achieve things you never considered possible.

Noah, a previous KEITS apprentice who has gone on to amazing things since completing an animal care apprenticeship!

Noah is pictured above with Rocky - one of the Boreray lambs from this year at Sacrewell Heritage Farm and Country Centre.

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