



STONEMARKET




Henley College and Stone Market

Paving the Way to a Brighter Future

Stonemarket, a landscape garden products company based in Ryton on Dunsmore in Warwickshire became the first organisation in Coventry to receive ITQs under the new government initiative Train to Gain. The sales team at Stonemarket became the first achievers of this qualification having completed the course work over the last three months.


Having identified the need to increase the skills of staff who work in the sales department at Stonemarket, sales office manager Glynis Humphreys began the search for a suitable provider.

BUILDING A PARTNERSHIP


 *"We have a very strong relationship with Henley College Coventry, and they have been delivering other NVQs here for some years. We also knew that the college was the local Centre of Vocational Excellence (CoVE) for computing and IT courses, so when it came to looking for a provider for the ITQs, Henley College Coventry became an obvious choice."*

Glynis Humphreys: Sales Office Manager

Five staff were trained by Henley to achieve the qualification under the subsidised Train to Gain initiative. The training was delivered to suit office demands and with the flexibility of ITQs, each person had a tailored qualification. Julie Craddock, CoVE manager in computing and e-skills at Henley College, said:

 *"ITQs are becoming a very popular and flexible computer qualification. Since it recognises that different employers need staff to have skills at different levels, we are able to customise training to meet employers' specific needs and to adapt the qualification to an individual's skills level."*

Julie Craddock, CoVE Manager Computing Henley College

 *"It was very convenient to be able to fit the work in and around our jobs rather than to have to go to college in the evening. The course was tailored to help us in our working environment and it focused on the IT skills we needed to brush up on in order to do the job more efficiently."*

Mick Holland, Sales Administrator Stonemarket

TRAIN TO GAIN

By using Train to Gain, staff development can be delivered free of charge, making significant savings for training budgets. Henley College Coventry, as part of a consortium, won a contract to deliver more than £200,000 Train to Gain provision across the West Midlands.

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