



# James

## Landscape Maintenance Supervisor

Joined The Parks Trust: 2020

### What do you do?

I look after the landscape along some of the grid roads and in the parks in Milton Keynes.

This includes hedgecutting, species pruning, weed control and strimming. In the Winter I do lots of work managing the trees such and cutting down overgrown, diseased, damaged or dangerous trees. My job is pretty varied.

### What did you do when you left school?

I left school when I was 16 and did a plumbing apprenticeship. I worked as a plumber for 4 years before going travelling.

### Why did you want to work for The Parks Trust?

I really enjoy working outdoors and I'd done similar jobs briefly in Australia whilst travelling. Living in MK and seeing the trainee role advertised at the time seemed like a perfect opportunity and it's turned out to be the best job I've ever had.

### Describe your career journey so far.

I started as a Landscape Maintenance Trainee and I didn't need any experience or knowledge in that field.

Not long before my initial 18 month trainee period was going to be finished, I interviewed for a Landscape Maintenance Supervisor role which I got. The Trust is a great place to progress your career in this industry. They've been really supportive helping me as I haven't been a Supervisor before.

### What skills or qualities do you need to be successful in your role?

To be outgoing and hardworking.

It's a very physical job, so being fit and healthy helps.

Be eager to learn. I have found my managers really speak to the individuals who seem keen and have a genuine interest in the work.

### My words of wisdom...

The Parks Trust is a great place to start a career in landscaping and forestry.

