



CLAAS Agricultural
Technician
Apprenticeship

Start your career here.

CLAAS

Includes Training in Germany



CLAAS

State of the art,
CLAAS LEXION
combine harvester.



CLAAS Technicians are amongst the most highly respected in the industry. Specialist diagnostic equipment allows service procedures to be speeded up.

Harvesting can be highly technical. CEBIS on the combines is the on-board computer system that provides a variety of important and accurate information.

CLAAS Agricultural Technician Apprenticeship

What is an Agricultural Technician?

Think of a piece of high tech equipment with a 600hp Mercedes engine, satellite navigation, laser guidance systems, integrated hydraulics and electrics and some of the most sophisticated computer hardware available.

That's a CLAAS LEXION 600 combine. One of the largest output combine harvesters in the world.

You could be the technician working on it and a whole range of similar equipment. You will be servicing it, maintaining it and repairing it if anything should go wrong. You'll be using a range of tools from computer diagnostic equipment to good old spanners, but the most important tool is your competence and expertise.

When trained, you could well be expected to know every element of the complex technology that makes CLAAS equipment so advanced.



CLAAS UK Headquarters at Saxham in Suffolk.
The area devoted to training at Saxham is the same size as some aircraft hangars.

Who are CLAAS?

Established in 1913, CLAAS has been making industry leading high tech farm equipment for nearly 100 years. Headquartered in Northern Germany, we are now one of the largest agricultural machinery manufacturers in the world. CLAAS have 14 manufacturing operations which are based in Germany and throughout the World.

As well as agricultural vehicle production we also have our own companies producing industrial components, assembly lines, production tools and electronic data processing software for ourselves and leading third party companies such as BMW, Mercedes and Ford, to name but a few.

We employ 8500 people worldwide including 500 trainees. In fact training is one of our prime activities and each year we also offer training to 6000 outside personnel who service and sell our machines through our own Academies in Germany and each of our 8 sales subsidiary companies.

Our equipment is used in 140 countries worldwide and harvests sugar cane, rice, soya bean and renewable crops as well as the cereal crops which we are more familiar with in Europe.

Our sales are close to 3 billion Euros and have doubled over the last 5 years. We are still growing and you can rest assured you will be working for a world leader in its field.



CLAAS Headquarters at Harsewinkel, Germany.

Who are CLAAS in the UK?

CLAAS UK has been the UK importer for CLAAS equipment since 1946 and is headquartered near Bury St. Edmunds, Suffolk.

As a wholly owned subsidiary of CLAAS we provide the total sales, supply and support functions for CLAAS users in Britain. We are the market leader in many of the products we sell and our reputation demands the very best of support for high value capital equipment.

CLAAS UK also owns 4 large dealerships through whom it markets and supports its products alongside 7 other major independently owned dealership groups. Collectively we cover the British Isles through 80 outlets situated in every area where agriculture is a vital part of the economy. In total CLAAS and its dealers employ 800 people in Britain and nearly half of them are Service Technicians.

CLAAS

What qualifications do I need?

You need to be between 16 and 19 years old and have a minimum of 4 GCSEs, including Maths, Science, English at Grade C or above.

What could I be earning?

Skilled Agricultural Technicians today have very attractive earning potential. It's up to you how far you take yours.

What about further training after I am qualified?

CLAAS' ongoing technical training is amongst the best in the industry. When products and systems are updated, you will be too. As technology moves forward with new ideas, you will move forward too. We aim to ensure that you and your colleagues continue to be the best at what you do.

Is it a Long Term Career?

Today there are 6.5 billion people on earth and every two days the population increases by approximately half a million. These people need feeding and in many parts of the world they need better diets than today. The land that is available for agriculture reduces each year due to the demand for housing, factories and roads to cope with this growing world population. The land that is available for agriculture has to be cared for better, yet still produce more. This creates a need for bigger and more productive machines, which are also mindful of the need to protect the soil and the environment.

CLAAS is the clear leader in such equipment.

What other qualities do I need?

We expect you will have an interest in engineering or mechanics; you may even 'tinker' with bikes or cars already. You will need to be enthusiastic and committed to working consistently through the course. Our best apprentices seem to be those who listen and then ask questions...is that you?

Show us what you are made of and a career with CLAAS could easily be yours.



Engineering Academy at Reaseheath.



Barony College.



The wide range of equipment at College ensures real first hand knowledge in training.



The workshop training facilities at Barony.



Reaseheath College.



A wealth of resource material at Reaseheath.

Which College will I attend?

Reaseheath College in Cheshire or Barony College in Dumfries. They have excellent facilities and some of the most experienced tutors. The courses are really hands-on and keep you involved. You stay on campus, have the opportunity to meet new friends and enjoy the social life.

How long is the course?

It usually takes 4 years to qualify, which sounds a long time, but you won't be involved in college-based training all the time. You will gain invaluable practical experience working alongside Technicians with your sponsoring dealership when not at College and also get the chance to spend two weeks at the CLAAS headquarters in Germany in year 3.

What about my long term future with CLAAS?

CLAAS is a big company. There are opportunities for advancement into management or other areas of the business within the UK or at other locations in the CLAAS worldwide organisation.

Efficiency is everything.

The on-board diagnostic systems inside CLAAS combines, foragers and tractors ensure precision where it counts.

What qualifications will I receive?

A National Diploma in Landbased Technology, which is the equivalent of 3 'A' levels. Enrollment and ongoing career progression with the Landbased Technician Accreditation (LTA) Scheme.

How is the apprenticeship structured?

Full details are available but here's an overview:

The National Diploma is a unit based qualification in which you will be expected to achieve either a pass, merit or distinction.

In Years 1, 2 and 3 you will spend 12-15 weeks at college, with the weeks made up of block attendance of various lengths; usually between 3-6 weeks each. All 3 years will include direct input from CLAAS to underpin the program.

In Year 4 the content will be controlled exclusively by CLAAS UK with additional elements added to the program, specifically to accelerate your contribution to the dealer network and to enhance your qualifications and career potential.

In addition:

In Year 2 you will spend a two week block in the Training Academy at CLAAS Headquarters, Saxham, Suffolk.

In Year 3 you could spend a two week block at CLAAS Headquarters in Harsewinkel, Germany.




LTA (Landbased Technician Accreditation) Tier 1 will automatically be awarded to apprentices and upon successful completion of the CLAAS programme this award will be upgraded to LTA Tier 2 and offer the potential to progress on through to Tier 3 or Tier 4 as experience and competence increases. Visit: www.iagre.org/LTA/index.shtml for more.



The CLAAS JAGUAR self-propelled forager makes light work of many acres.

CLAAS



So what's my next move?

Talk to your Careers Adviser at School or write to:

Personnel Manager,
Claas U.K. Limited,
Saxham, Bury St Edmunds,
Suffolk IP28 6QZ.

E-mail: j.broomhall@claas.com

We'll be delighted to send you full
details of the Course
and to answer any questions
you or your parents may have.

Or give us a ring on 01284 763100