



Matthew Carver, director of electrical contractors Lucas Electrics, in Brighton, and new 17-year-old apprentice Joe Cole.

Call for more apprenticeships

CONSTRUCTION firms are being urged to take on apprentices.

City College Brighton and Hove claims there is a shortage of employers in the city willing to help youngsters train for a fulfilling career.

A grant of £1,500 is available for business for businesses who take on an apprentice aged 16-24 before the end of October.

One boss who has bucked the trend is Matthew Carver, director of electrical contractors Lucas Electrics, in Brighton, who recently welcomed 17-year-old Joe Cole to his firm.

He said: "I think it's important to train kids properly in a hands-on way. Joe is learning

really fast while he'll also be picking up the theory side at college. In the first six months an apprentice will be shadowing you a lot but if you treat them well and train them well, at the end of the day they'll be making money for you and it's a good move for any business in the construction industry to take one on."

Joe said: "I went to a mainstream college to take A levels and it didn't really work out for me. I just prefer doing practical stuff, it's going really well and I enjoy learning, working and earning money at the same time."

Firms interested should call City College's apprenticeship co-ordinator Krystle Holford on 01273 667788 ext 303 or email KHO@ccb.ac.uk.