



Peter Dawson

Landscaping

➔ What inspired you to become a Skills Coach, and what do you enjoy most about supporting apprentices?



I worked in the industry for over 25 years and was ready for a new challenge. When I ran my own business, I supported college students and saw how valuable that experience was to their success, which inspired me to move into coaching."

⬇ What experience and expertise do you bring to your role that helps apprentices succeed in their chosen industry?



Having worked hands-on in the industry for many years, I understand the skills needed to succeed. I also bring experience in client management, meeting client needs, and understanding competitors, which helps apprentices prepare for real workplace expectations.

➔ What's one piece of advice you always share with apprentices to help them make the most of their training?



Ask questions. Don't just complete tasks — understand why you're doing them. That's how you build real confidence and get the most out of your training.

⬇ How do you support apprentices in balancing workplace demands with their studies?



We hold in-person sessions once a fortnight, and all coursework is done on their college day, so no evening or weekend work is needed. Employers get these dates in advance, and we encourage open communication to keep everyone supported and on track.

➔ What achievement—either your own career success or a learner's success—are you most proud of?



I'm proud when students achieve distinctions, but one standout moment was helping a student build confidence in English, maths, and presentation skills. Seeing him achieve his Functional Skills and Landscaping qualification was incredibly rewarding.

