

YOUNG LIFE SAVERS

Just over a year ago Gravesham Community Leisure Limited started its partnership with Swim UK providing Apprenticeship placements for young people who were looking to take their first steps towards a career in the leisure industry, so far 7 young people have signed up for the scheme and are doing really well.

Ben Cloke, Facility Manager at Cygnet, said: "Since the Swim UK Apprenticeship scheme started we have welcomed some fantastic team members to GCLL who have worked hard and passed their relevant lifeguarding qualifications, it has been such a great success and we hope to continue working with them in the future".

The leisure apprenticeship offers a work based programme whereby the staff earn whilst they learn; each apprentice qualifies as a Lifeguard and ASA Level 2 Swimming Teacher and completes numerous internal and external development courses including First Aid at Work, Customer Care, Health & Safety and COSHH to name a few.

Max, who was just 16 when he started his apprenticeship said "This first year has flown by and I have really enjoyed the work environment. I did well in my GCSE's but knew I did not want to stay in the education system. After passing my first year I decided to sign for a second

and hopefully qualify as a Level 2 Fitness Instructor – I am really happy I made the decision to become an apprentice and would recommend anyone to look into this option of earning whilst learning".

Darcie, 17, said: "After achieving 11 GCSE's I thought the natural progression was for me to start 6th form, however I realised after some time that school just wasn't for me.

I was really lucky that an opening came up at Cascades and I was able to start my apprenticeship almost immediately – I still have a lot to learn about the industry and I will probably stay on to do another year – there are a number of choices I can make to add another leisure qualification to my CV".

Swim UK not only offer apprenticeships but also traineeships and funded courses for young people age 16-24 years - For further information about Swim UK and the apprenticeship scheme visit www.swimuk.co.uk

Gravesham
Community Leisure



Jordan enjoying his new role at the sports centre.

Cygnet Leisure Centre

Gravesham Community Leisure Limited is very happy to announce the refurbished gym at Cygnet Leisure Centre is now open.

After a fire earlier in the year which caused extensive damage to the gym and other areas of the building it has given GCLL the opportunity to install some brand new equipment including a Free runner, Stairmaster and Trojan Functional frame to name a few. The gym has been redecorated and the whole layout has changed to make the facility more appealing and user friendly.

Wayne Pedrick Head of Facility Management said "We were absolutely devastated for our members and the staff following the fire at Cygnet, the damage was much worse than we originally thought and due to this the work has taken longer than we first hoped. The repairs have cost more than 1.4 million which should give some indication of the extent of the damage caused. We can't wait for our members to see the gym and hope they are as excited about the changes as we are."



New apprentices Max and Darcie

