



For more info on Fairview, check out feds.co.nz

Did you know, Hamilton-based Fairview Educational Services (FEDS) has trained over 2000 students for careers in the motor industry since 1998?

As part of one of the leading Ford and Mazda dealerships in New Zealand, FEDS provides a range of automotive courses at Levels 2 and 3, including the NZ Certificate in Automotive Engineering. A range of short course are also available.

FEDS students gain first hand experience of the day to day operations at a leading dealership with the practical training taking place at Fairview Motors Ltd in their fully-equipped modern workshop.

Kyle Marshall grew up working on cars and eventually decided to put his passion to work and become an Automotive Technician. We spoke with him about what it's like being an apprentice at Fairview Motors...



Type of person

- Open-minded
- Likes cars!
- Has a good work ethic
- Eager to get started



Useful School Subjects

- Metal tech
- Hard materials – anything that gives you a chance to get familiar with the tools
- Maths

To find out more about this sector, profiles of young people like you in the industry, and career tools and tips...

scan here →



Q & A

KYLE MARSHALL
AUTOMOTIVE TECHNICIAN APPRENTICE



The FutureForce® Crew sat down with Kyle to chat about his role...

WHAT DO YOU DO AT WORK?

At the moment I am servicing vehicles and learning from the other technicians who are qualified and have been qualified for 20 or so years. I am picking up skills and tips from them. I like working with my hands and staying busy throughout the day. Being busy makes the day go faster, and the work environment is enjoyable to be in.

WHAT GOT YOU INTERESTED IN THIS CAREER PATH?

I grew up with my Dad working on cars and stuff. I originally had other career aspirations and worked for different companies, but needed a qualification. It took applying two times and explaining my story and interest to eventually land a job here. I just wanted more job security... it's a good qualification to have [behind your name] as it can land you a job just about anywhere.

TOP CAREER TIP

THE BEST CAREER ADVICE I'VE EVER BEEN GIVEN WASN'T ADVICE, IT WAS THE EXAMPLE OF MY PARENTS.

MY MUM AND DAD BOTH ROLEMODELLED TO ME WHAT HARD WORK LOOKS LIKE. THIS INFLUENCED MY WORK ETHIC AND THE WAY I APPLY MYSELF TO EVERYTHING I DO.

WHAT DO YOU WISH YOU KNEW WHEN YOU LEFT SCHOOL?

I wish I knew back then that although school gives you a good foundation of the basics, many of the things that were important to me then didn't matter once I left. There are many different pathways and school is just one of them. Being able to have more free reign when you're older is a bonus. You can learn many life-skills as you get older.

KYLE MARSHALL
AUTOMOTIVE TECHNICIAN APPRENTICE



USEFUL SCHOOL SUBJECTS & OTHER QUALIFICATIONS

I never really applied myself to school and could've definitely done a lot better. I did technical drawings which really interested me along with woodwork and metalwork – quite practical subjects over theory-based subjects. I think it's quite a traditional approach to believe that you can only get a good career through academic subjects at school. These practical subjects had an influence on what I do here due to the hands-on skills.

The work my Dad used to do and how we got brought up influenced me more... being outside and building stuff. My Dad worked on his own cars so we were always around that. I've always been around it so it makes it easier to do.

WHAT DO YOU WANT TO DO IN THE FUTURE?

Being qualified was the big thing for me. I just really wanted something in my name that I could fall back on if I ever needed to. I just want to be happy and do what I need to do to achieve that. I got tired of saying "one day I'm gonna do this". One day I just woke up and decided I was going to start something. Moving forward is important, it's easy to just stay still and get stuck and lose momentum.



WHAT ARE SOME SKILLS YOU'VE LEARNT ON THE JOB?

- » Diagnostic skills
- » How to think on your feet
- » Problem solving
- » Assessing and servicing vehicles

WHAT HAVE YOU LEARNT ON THE JOB?

Before now if I had a job to do I would've just done it without much thought. Now I have a lot more purpose and confidence in what I do – I'm not second guessing myself all the time. Fixing cars definitely makes me feel capable and assured that I can do hard things.

WHAT ADVICE WOULD YOU GIVE SOMEONE DECIDING ON THEIR CAREER?

We get told quite a lot to just make sure you do what you love and I've always found that advice to not always be very practical. There are a range of jobs in our society, and we need a range of people to fulfill each role. When looking into careers it's a balance of what's practical for you AND what you love. If you've got to have a job to support the life you want to live, get stuck in and do it.

Don't pin all your hopes on a high-flying career. It's okay to be content with simply having a job as the means to support the life you want to live. I think the world needs hard workers and blue-collared people. Having a work-life balance is important when exploring a career. You've got to be able to work hard and just have fun after.