

Birkwood Train the Younger Generation of Plant Operators



Jacob Copley of Farmer Copleys is the youngest
Telehandler operator that Birkwood have trained

Jacob's parents are keen for him to work on the family farm before he attends Askham Bryan College in September so they paid for him to attend Birkwood's 5 day CPCS telehandler course.

Birkwood aims to deliver training in a way that replicates the real work environment so all courses begin at 07:45 am and Jacob found this a rather rude awakening to the world of work and on day two he arrived in a bit of a 'dream world'!!!

CPCS (Construction Plant Competence Scheme) is one of the most robust schemes in the industry and the final exam is pass or fail and although Jacob was very nervous he passed to a very high standard.

Due to Jacob's age he will still need to work under supervision, but it is encouraging to see employers investing in the younger workforce.

When asked if he enjoyed the course Jacob said *"I have operated our Telehandler at home and now realise the importance of things such as pre-use checks and general H&S. I can understand how accidents happen when people develop bad habits."*

On conquering the high lift, Jacob said *"When I first did it I was terrified to lift to such a height but with the support of my instructor Sean Markey I was soon confidently lifting loads to the top level of the scaffold tower."*

FARMER COPLEYS
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Jacob Copley pictured with Trainer Darryl Loftus

