

## Apprentice from Glasgow wins national Screwfix Trade Apprentice competition!

- Chris Keel has been crowned this year's champion in the Screwfix Trade Apprentice Competition
- He was awarded the title after a national final with nine other apprentices
- He will receive the ultimate prize to kick-start his career a trade bundle worth £10,000

A joinery and carpentry apprentice from Glasgow has been named this year's winner of the Screwfix Trade Apprentice 2020 competition.

Christopher Keel, 21, took part in the first ever digital final (25 June) alongside nine other finalists. He impressed a panel of industry experts including representatives from the NICEIC, CIPHE, FMB and Screwfix Britain's Top Tradesperson 2019, Darren McGhee to win the accolade.

His outstanding confidence and positive approach, the way he has overcome adversity and his ambition for the future, stood him apart in the eyes of the judges to be awarded the title and the ultimate trade bundle worth £10,000. This includes everything a future tradesperson may need to kick-start their career, including £5,000 of tools, a £3,000 training budget and £2,000 worth of technology.

Chris, who is studying towards his joinery and carpentry qualification at Queenslie Training Centre, says: "I was absolutely speechless when I found out that I'd won. The other finalists were all so talented so it's such an honour to be given this title. I want to use this success as a platform to encourage more individuals into the trade – it's such a worthwhile career and an apprenticeship can change your life for the better!"

Danielle Sweet, Screwfix spokesperson, said: "We have such a worthy winner in Chris. He demonstrates everything we look for in this competition – professionalism, ambition and a

desire to raise awareness amongst others about the benefits of apprenticeships and a future career in the trade.

"This year we received over 1400 entries, and Chris impressed us with the way he has picked himself up after several knock backs, his drive to build his own business and run his own Ltd company, as well as his future ambitions. Chris has a promising career ahead of him, along with our other worthy finalists.

To find out more on the Trade Apprentice competition, please visit <a href="www.screwfix.com/sfta">www.screwfix.com/sfta</a>.

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## **About Screwfix:**

Screwfix is part of Kingfisher plc, the international home improvement company with over 1,300 stores in 9 countries across Europe, Russia and Turkey, supported by a team of over 77,000 colleagues. It operates under retail brands including B&Q, Castorama, Brico Dépôt, Screwfix and Koçtaş. It offers home improvement products and services to nearly six million consumers and trade professionals who shop in its stores and through its digital channels every week.

It believes everyone should have a home they feel good about, so its purpose is to make home improvement accessible for everyone. <a href="www.kingfisher.com">www.kingfisher.com</a>

Screwfix is convenient, straightforward and affordably-priced, helping its trade customers get the job done quickly, affordably and right first time. Tradespeople can shop 33,000 products over the phone, online, via their mobile or in-person from their local store.

- From power tools and work wear to cables and pipe fittings, Screwfix offers over 11,000 products available to pick up from over 640 UK stores nationwide.
- Over 33,000 products can be ordered over the phone, online or from a local store, with orders taken up until 8pm (weekdays) for next day delivery to home or site.
- Screwfix.com attracts over 5.8 million visits per week.
- We have over 8 million active customers a year.
- The Screwfix Click & Collect service, which enables customers to pick-up their goods in as little as one minute after ordering online or over the phone, is used more than 10 million times a year.

- UK-based Screwfix Contact Centre open 24 hours a day, 7 days a week (including bank holidays) on 03330 112 112.
- See <u>www.screwfix.com/stores</u> for store opening information.
- Next day delivery is available within store opening hours.
- World leading customer satisfaction levels.
- Screwfix was awarded Glassdoor's Best Places to Work in 2017 and 2018.
- Screwfix was awarded Retail Week's 'Best Retailer over £250m' and 'Digital Pioneer' awards in 2018
- Screwfix was awarded in the A-Z of Recognised Retailers in the Retail Top 100 Movers & Shakers Report 2019
- Screwfix was awarded Retail Week's Mark of Excellence' for Best Place to Work in 2019
- The Screwfix and Wincanton team came highly commended in the Chep Award for Supply
  Chain Strategy and Design at the Logistics Manager Supply Chain Excellence Awards
  2019.
- For more information about Screwfix please visit our media centre: www.screwfixmedia.co.uk

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