

Gateway Carpentry

Mason Kinzett enjoys the hands-on nature of building. He thought he'd like to get a Building Apprenticeship when he left school. Mason applied for and was accepted into the Gateway Programme at Waitaki Boys' High School. There are limited places on the course and students are interviewed to help decide if they are suitable candidates. Ideally students should demonstrate maturity, focus and an interest in particular career.



How does it work

During the first month on the programme, Mason completed a First Aid course and Health & Safety in the Workplace units. He also began carpentry theory units through the Building & Construction Industry Training Organisation (BCITO). By the end of February, with the help of the Gateway Co-ordinator, Mason secured a work placement (Friday each week) with Breens Construction. The work placement meant Mason got to try a range of activities and gained valuable experience and training from the builders at Breens Construction.

The opportunity to work one day a week to try out a real career in a real workplace is something Mason really enjoyed. Mason's hard work and dedication paid off when Mason was offered a Carpentry apprenticeship with Breens Construction Co. Ltd in Oamaru