



Jordan Goulding shaking hands with Dan Davies

Building a bright future for youths

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A CHORLEY-based construction firm has benefited from being awarded a national scholarship which enables them to take on an apprentice who is entirely funded to work for them for 12 months.

The initiative was launched by leading construction audit, contract and payroll provider, Hudson Contract, to celebrate its 20th anniversary and also provide opportunities for young apprentices hoping to take their first steps on the construction career ladder.

After receiving entries from construction firms across the country, Hudson Contract's judging panel awarded one of the two scholarships to construction and civil engineering firm, Matthews & Leigh.

As a result of the awarded funding, the company has welcomed Jordan Goulding, 18 who is about to start his Level 2 Apprenticeship in Construction Operation at Preston College.

Ian and Andrew Leigh, joint managing directors for Matthews & Leigh, added: "We really value the contribution apprentices

make to our company.

"They are the future of our workforce and it's vital for them to have the skills and training they need to produce quality work and fully understand the industry's health and safety requirement.

"To be awarded this scholarship is a fantastic opportunity for us as we recognise that today's apprentices are to become the next generation of supervisors and managers, which is so important to the long-term growth of the industry."

Ian Anfield, managing director at Hudson Contract, said: "For a long time we have been concerned about the lack of opportunities for young people trying to enter the construction industry. We hope that by providing this scholarship we shall see Joe realise his full potential and enjoy a long and successful career in the building trade.

"We had a high volume of entries, but Matthews & Leigh stood out as they demonstrated the important role an apprentice will make to their business moving forward."

"In addition to Hudson Contract's 2016 scholarship, the company has supported local apprentices for many years."