

Fiddes Payne raises staff morale

Supplier of herbs and spices encourages staff to achieve NVQs

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There's been a buzz in the air at Fiddes Payne since employees signed up for the company's NVQ programme.

From its food manufacturing facility in Banbury, Oxfordshire, Fiddes Payne supplies herbs, spices and home baking products to supermarkets in the UK and in many other countries globally.

When the company decided to offer all permanent staff the chance to gain an NVQ qualification, it aimed to recognise their achievements and show how highly they were valued. Through national training provider Intec Business Colleges, staff at Fiddes Payne are working on NVQs in Storage and Warehousing, Business and Administration, Team Leading and Management certificated by EDI, the UK's fastest growing awarding body.

Now that the programme is in full swing, there is a noticeable difference in staff morale and enthusiasm, says office manager Suzanne Algie.

"People feel good about the company investing in them," said Suzanne. "Some of our workforce didn't have any qualifications, or perhaps just a couple of GCSEs, so this is a chance for them to fill that gap. We also have quite a few workers from abroad who are doing these NVQs and it is helping them to get a better understanding of British working standards, on top of gaining a recognised qualification."

Now that so many Fiddes Payne employees are settled into the NVQ programme, Suzanne has had time to think about her own development needs and has just signed up to become an Adult Apprentice!



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