



CELEBRATING OUR **100TH** **BUS DRIVER APPRENTICE**

MOHAMMAD *One of our awesome 100!*

Mohammad Mamode. Bolton Depot. Joined November 2024

My journey so far.

I was thrilled to become part of Go North West. When I found out I'd been accepted I felt an overwhelming sense of joy and excitement.

During my training I learnt lots of new skills, things I'd never even considered before, but all essential to being a bus driver. Driving the bus for the first time was particularly exhilarating, having never been in the driver's seat before it was thrilling to know that this would soon be my job.

My instructors, especially Shamus and Jimmy, along with the driver mentors, made me feel confident and resilient. They really reflected the caring, supportive, and encouraging nature of the Go North West community.

Passing my driving test was a moment of immense pride. It validated all my hard work.

Initially I thought route learning would be challenging having to memorise routes quickly.

However, with the help of my mentor, Lindsey, the process was much easier than I'd thought.

Leading up to my first solo shift, I was quite nervous. However, the support from my friends reassured me that I'd be fine.

Adjusting to the different shifts was a bit challenging at first, but by week three I'd got used to it and I was loving my job!

The apprenticeship has taught me how to interact with the public, provide excellent customer service, and understand the importance of safety on board the bus and in the workplace.

Eight months in I am more certain than ever that this is the job for me. Looking ahead I want to progress in my career, perhaps becoming a driving instructor, a mentor, or even more!