Apprenticeships

Apprentices earn a wage and work alongside experienced staff to gain job-specific skills, whilst studying for a nationally recognised qualification with a training provider or local college. Apprenticeships can be complete in one year or some will last for a total of four years. Apprenticeships are designed with the help of the employers in the industry, so they offer a structured programme that takes you through the skills you need.

**Levels**

Apprenticeships are increasingly recognised as the gold standard for work-based training.

1. ***Intermediate Level Apprenticeships****(equivalent of getting 5 GCSEs at grade 9-4)*
2. ***Advanced Level Apprenticeships****(equivalent to 2 A-level passes)*
3. ***Higher Apprenticeships****(equivalent to a foundation degree)*

***Pay***

The current **minimum wage** rate for an **apprentice** is £3.70 per hour. This rate applies to **apprentices** under 19 and those aged 19 or over who are in their first year.

**Applying for an Apprenticeship**

Apprenticeships are open to all age groups above 16 years-old whether you are just leaving school, have been working for years or are seeking to start a new career. There may be different entry requirements depending on the Apprenticeship and the industry sector. However competition for places with employers can be fierce, so you will need to show that you are committed, and aware of your responsibilities to both yourself and the company who would employ you.

All apprenticeships will be advertised @ <https://www.gov.uk/apply-apprenticeship>

You will need to register on the site and search for apprenticeships using keywords, job roles and location. If you see any of interest you need to apply on line and you can apply for up to 10 vacancies at any one time. On the site you will complete an application and you will need to complete this to the best of your ability as this may be sent straight to employers. Some vacancies may direct you direct to the employers website to follow their application process.

For other helpful websites please see links below:

* [www.successatschool.org](http://www.successatschool.org/)
* [www.amazingapprenticeships.com](http://www.amazingapprenticeships.com/)
* <https://www.notgoingtouni.co.uk/>
* <https://www.gov.uk/apply-apprenticeship>
* <http://www.apprenticeshipguide.co.uk/>
* <https://www.getingofar.gov.uk/>
* [www.be-more.info](http://be-more.info/)
* <https://www.apprenticeshiphub.org.uk/>