



All About Apprenticeships

THE WHAT, WHO, WHY AND HOW?

**EVERYTHING YOU NEED TO MAKE AN
INFORMED CHOICE**

**Student, teacher or parent. Our quick and easy guide to
making the right decision about the next step!**



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WHAT IS AN APPRENTICESHIP?

An apprenticeship is a real job!

Completed in the workplace, it gives an opportunity to learn theory, develop skills and apply it all practically. All whilst tailored to the individual apprentice's needs. Plus, you gain over a year's work experience on your CV, because, it is a real job!

Apprenticeships are available in over 170 industries from entry level positions (Level 2), to senior management (Level 7, equivalent to Degree and Masters level).

An apprentice has the same rights as any other employee and are seen as an important part in the mechanism of businesses.

With an apprenticeship you gain sector specific skills that form the foundation of your chosen career path.

IT'S THE
REAL
DEAL!

KEY FACTS

- **Earn while you learn**
 - **Learn job specific skills**
 - **Learn from experienced staff**
 - **Time to study 'off the job'**
 - **Gain work experience**
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WHO CAN DO AN APPRENTICESHIP?

MYTH BUSTER

"Apprenticeships are for people who didn't do well in school!"

Wrong! That isn't true, apprenticeships are for everyone!

"If you judge a fish by it's ability to climb a tree, it will go through it's whole life thinking it is stupid"
Albert Einstein

Everyone is different, that means the way we learn and grow is too. Apprenticeships are tailored to meet those individualities making it possible for everyone to achieve success.

There are some criteria though that people must meet to be able to do an apprenticeship.

CRITERIA

- **You must 16 and over**
 - **You must not apply for a sector you already hold a level 2 or higher in.**
 - **You must not already be in education/apprenticeship.**
 - **You must be a UK resident.**
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Apprenticeships are for anyone 16 and over. This could include any entry level position right through to graduates, senior managers and even directors!

Did you know that 1 in 5 companies have a former apprentice at board level.

There may be additional criteria for the specific standard that must be met too. This is to enable the successful applicant to be put on the path to achieve.

It is important to read the apprenticeship vacancy advert clearly and ensure that the criteria are met before applying.



"The fact that we are all different is the one thing we all have in common"

Justin Young

WHY CHOOSE AN APPRENTICESHIP?

Is it for me?

Only the candidate knows the answer and only they can make the decision.

But, let's make sure you know why people choose apprenticeships so that it is an informed choice.

"All roads lead to Rome"
Alain de Lille

People choose to undertake an apprenticeship for many reasons. Nowadays, there are many more pathways to achieve a desired career and success.

- For some, sitting in a classroom or lecture theatre just isn't for them. They find they learn better by being shown something practically and then having a go through trial and error. The truth is, most great scientific discoveries happened by accident.
- During an apprenticeship the apprentice will be mentored by experienced staff and be taught the practical skills of the job whilst learning the knowledge in a way that is tailored to the individual.
- In some career pathways it is more beneficial to train in the workplace.

HOW DO I KNOW?

- **When you learn better by doing**
 - **The career path is practical**
 - **Need to earn whilst learning**
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- It offers the candidate the opportunity to learn sector specific skills for their chosen career path. This also has the added bonus of showing work experience on your CV.
- Often college courses are the same level as an apprenticeship. If you were an employer and had two candidates to choose from; both with the same level of qualification or training, one who went to college and one who spent a year in the industry as well, who are you going to choose?
- Certain circumstances mean people cannot give up a wage for a year or longer. An apprenticeship offers the opportunity to earn money whilst learning making career progression possible for everyone.
- Sometimes College or University just isn't right. Three or more years of no wage and building a debt isn't the only way to achieve career success.

HOW DO I DO AN APPRENTICESHIP?

Where to start.

First things first, Ask yourself a few questions.

- What do you enjoy doing?**
- What career would interest you?**
- What path is right for you?**

For some, college and university is the answer, particularly if you want to become a doctor or a vet.

The most important thing about any career path is, what will make you happy?

Once you know what you might be interested in take some steps to gather the information needed to make an informed decision.

Ask Industry Experts:

The first step to take may be to ask someone already in the industry for advice. They may be able to tell you how they got where they are and they may be able to offer advice on the best place to look for more support and guidance.

findanapprenticeship.service.gov.uk

You can search for apprenticeships that are available online. You can search by sector or by postcode.

You can also apply online through the government system too. Scan the QR code below.

Approach a Training Provider

Research possible apprenticeship courses and find out who provides them. Then contact the relevant training providers. They may have suitable opportunities available or even in the pipeline that may be right for you.

Approach businesses

Look for companies you are interested in working for and contact them directly. Ask them if they have any apprenticeship positions available or coming up. You could ask them if they would be interested in taking on an apprentice and if they are guide them to a suitable training provider who would be more than happy to discuss the details.

"Life is either a daring adventure or nothing at all"

Helen Keller

What do you want it to be?

Scan the QR code for findanapprenticeship.service.gov.uk

