



A PARENT'S GUIDE TO APPRENTICESHIPS

As a parent, you want your child to get the best possible start in their career. There are many options available to young people after they leave school, and in this guide, we outline information and benefits about apprenticeships as a key route into a successful career.

What's an apprenticeship?

It is a genuine job, with training, meaning you can earn while you learn and gain a nationally recognised qualification

What are the benefits?

Apprenticeships have changed a huge amount in the past few years and now offer access to more than 1500 different job roles

- > Earning a salary and paid holiday
- > Increased future earning potential
- > Employability skills
- > Excellent progression opportunities, whether looking to study further or progress within the workplace

WHAT LEVELS ARE THERE?

There are various levels of apprenticeship to apply for depending on current skills and qualifications. Apprenticeships have equivalent educational levels:

Name	Level	Equivalent educational level
Intermediate	2	5 GCSE passes at Grades A* - C or 9 - 4
Advanced	3	2 A level passes
Higher	4, 5, 6 and 7	Foundation degree and above
Degree	6 and 7	Bachelor's or master's degree

All apprenticeships include elements of on the job and off the job training leading to industry recognised standards or qualifications. Some Apprenticeships will require an assessment at the end of the programme to assess the apprentices ability and competence in their job role.

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**Search apprenticeships at
worcsapprenticeships.org.uk**

How do you apply?

At any one time there are between 12,000- 20,000 apprenticeship vacancies available online in a variety of careers and industries across England. Visit [GOV.UK/apply-apprenticeship](https://www.gov.uk/apply-apprenticeship). You can search by keyword (job role, occupation type or apprenticeship level) and by location.

Once the right job comes up, your son or daughter can simply register on the website and follow the step-by-step instructions to apply for the role.

If they are not quite ready for an apprenticeship or job, they could try a traineeship with a local employer to gain valuable work experience and the opportunity to improve their English and maths, if needed. Visit [GOV.UK/find-traineeship](https://www.gov.uk/find-traineeship) for more information or to apply for traineeship opportunities.

For local vacancies in Worcestershire visit [worcsapprenticeships.org.uk](https://www.worcsapprenticeships.org.uk)

5 Top Tips for Parents and Carers

5 top tips for parents and carers who are supporting their child to explore apprenticeships and other options.

1. Be open-minded and prepared to explore a range of options with your child

You may be really surprised at what you find out. Try to put to one side your preconceptions of what you think is best, and be open to look at everything.

2. Think twice - Technical or Academic?

There is no one better route, but there are many quality options available within both. It's important to explore all of the options that are available.

3. Think about your child's preferred learning style

It doesn't matter what their ability level is, but thinking about their learning style may help you to think about the appropriate options to explore further.

4. Use the support available to you

Don't be afraid to ask your child's school or college for support. They have a responsibility to help your child to prepare for their next level of transition.

5. Don't expect your child to know what they want to do

We know from research that many young people are not yet ready to select a career, and will want to try out many different career options in their lifetime.

Consider work experience

Work experience can build your child's CV and help them build a range of skills employers are looking for.

It is really beneficial if your child is unsure about what career route/job role they want to pursue and will also enrich their CV



Salaries

The minimum wage for apprentices is increasing to £4.81 per hour from April 2022, but many employers pay more than this. This is dependent on the sector, region and apprenticeship level. E.g. some higher apprenticeships pay up to £500 per week.

More details on salaries and entry criteria in specific apprenticeship occupations can be accessed by looking at the vacancies on 'Find an apprenticeship'.

School leaving age

The government has stated that all young people must stay in some form of education or training until at least their 18th birthday. This does not necessarily mean staying in school; young people have a choice about how they continue in education or training post 16, which could be through an apprenticeship or traineeship.

Making Connections

Research and building up your knowledge is an important part when considering an apprenticeship. It is good to speak with training providers, local employers and apprentices to find out more about what is on offer and how their programmes work. A provider search is available on our website [worcsapprenticeships.org.uk/business-directory](https://www.worcsapprenticeships.org.uk/business-directory). Here you can search for local Worcestershire Training Providers and apply direct to them as well.

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