

# WHAT IS AN APPRENTICESHIP?

## An apprenticeship is a real job

Available to individuals aged 16+ (with no upper age limit), apprentices are typically employed for at least 30 hours per week.

## Apprentices are paid a salary

All apprentices will earn a salary of at least the National Minimum Wage for apprentices which will be £4.81 per hour from April 2022. Many employers pay more!

## Apprenticeships last a minimum of 12 months

Most apprenticeships take between 1 - 4 years to complete. It will depend on the level and delivery model of the apprenticeship.

## Apprenticeships range from level 2 to level 7

There are apprenticeships at levels equivalent to GCSEs right up to Master's Degree level, see the table on the next page for details.

## Key facts you need to know

## Apprentices will receive 20% off-the-job learning

20% of an apprentice's paid time will be spent undertaking off-the-job learning, gaining valuable skills and qualifications.

## Apprentices will spend 80% of their time on-the-job

80% of an apprentice's paid time will be spent on-the-job, working with colleagues to learn new skills and gain experience of the workplace.

## Apprentices do not pay for their training

All apprenticeship costs are paid for by the employer and/or the government meaning that an apprentice will never have to pay for their training.

## There are thousands of apprenticeships in more than 170 industries

New apprenticeships are advertised each week covering a wide range of jobroles. You will be amazed at the variety and breadth available!

How do you apply?

## WHAT LEVELS ARE THERE?

At any one time there are between 12,000- 20,000 apprenticeship vacancies available online in a variety of careers and industries across England.

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-levels or equivalent
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.

### 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](http://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, you 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](http://GOV.UK/find-traineeship) for more information or to apply for traineeship opportunities.

**For local vacancies in Worcestershire visit [wocsapprenticeships.org.uk](http://wocsapprenticeships.org.uk)**

### Consider work experience

Work experience can build your CV and help build of range of skills employers are looking for.

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

### Entry requirements

Apprenticeships are available to anyone over the age of 16, living in England. All vacancies on Find an apprenticeship will clearly state what the entry requirements are for the job role being advertised. There will be different entry requirements depending on the industry, job role and apprenticeship level.

### 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 [wocsapprenticeships.org.uk/business-directory](http://wocsapprenticeships.org.uk/business-directory) Here you can search for local Worcestershire Training Providers and apply direct to them as well.

### What is the role of my training provider?

There are various providers of Apprenticeships, including colleges, universities and independent private training providers. They provide off-the-job training, regularly assess your progress towards achieving your qualifications and supporting you throughout your apprenticeship, working closely with both you and your employer

## Search apprenticeships at [wocsapprenticeships.org.uk](http://wocsapprenticeships.org.uk)

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