



WESTFIELD
ACADEMY

A Simple Guide to Apprenticeship

The most up-to-date information regarding apprenticeship can be found on the following website:

<https://www.gov.uk/topic/further-education-skills/apprenticeships>



What is an Apprenticeship?

- An Apprenticeship is an employment with training combined
- It permits trainees to receive a salary whilst they learn, acquire knowledge and increase their skillset
- It enables the trainee to attain a nationally recognised qualification

Who Qualifies for an Apprenticeship?

- Apprenticeships are accessible to everybody who has reached the legal school leaving age to 25 years old

How Long Do Apprenticeships Last?

- Apprenticeships can take anywhere between 1 to 5 years to complete

Which Career Choice Can You Consider in an Apprenticeship?

- Apprenticeships are available in more than 1,500 employment placements in an extensive variety of industries
- Enabling individuals to find an apprenticeship in most employment sectors, and to meet their needs of a chosen career path

What Are the Entry Requirements?

- There are varied entrance requirements depending on the sector and job role and what level you decide to enter
- Each apprenticeship will specify what their specific requirements are

What Are the Different Levels of Apprenticeships?

- There are three levels of Apprenticeship available, depending on applicants' skills and qualifications:

[Intermediate Apprenticeship](#) or level 2

- This is the first level of apprenticeship
- Usually undertaken after GCSEs

- Often employers may ask for Mathematics and English GCSE. However this varies from one apprenticeship to another
- Often basic functional skills are taught (e.g. Basis Mathematics and English ITC skillset)

Advanced Apprenticeship or level 3

- This is the next step up from level 2 apprenticeship
- Employers are typically looking for a selection of GCSEs
- This is a slightly more detailed course than an intermediate apprenticeship
- Often has slightly more advanced Functional skill- (e.g. more detailed literacy, numeracy and ICT skillset)
- You will gain a nationally recognised vocational qualification
- You will also gain a technical certificate such as a BTEC or City & Guilds (relevant to the specific Apprenticeship)
- Other professional qualifications or requirements as specified by the particular job.

Higher Apprenticeship or level 4 and above

- This is up to degree level and above.
- This type of apprenticeship is undertaken after A levels/level 3 BTECS
- Often the qualifications you will finish with are a HND, a degree or a nationally recognised vocational qualification
- These types of apprenticeship exclude the functional skills.
- You will gain a technical certificate such as a BTEC or City & Guilds (relevant to the specific Apprenticeship)
- Other professional qualifications or requirements as specified by the particular job.

How much do You Get Paid to do an Apprenticeship?

- The minimum that apprentices are entitled to depends on their age and length of time on a programme.
- Starting at £3.50- £3.70 (as of April 2017) per hour – if an apprentice is under 19 or in their first year
- This rises to £5.55 in the second year and for those aged 18 to 20
- It then increases to £6.95 for 21-24-year-olds, and then up to the National Living Wage of £7.20 if they are over 25.
- Apprentices aged 18 must be paid the standard National Minimum Wage after 12 months
- Employers are free to pay above the apprenticeship wage and many do so, but employers must ensure that they are paying their apprentices at least the minimum wage.
- The average weekly wage for an apprentice is around £200, dependent on the sector, region and apprenticeship level
- Some Higher Apprenticeships can pay as much as £300-£500 per week
- Those who do get paid the minimum might be eligible to receive benefits from the government
- Higher Apprenticeships and Degree Apprenticeships often pay higher than the National Minimum Wage
- National Apprenticeship Minimum Wage; is approximately £16,000 starting salary
- Some Higher Apprenticeship employers pay as high as £23,000 per year.

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