APPRENTICESHIPS: A GUIDE FOR PARENTS & CARERS

This quick guide has been created for parents and carers, to help you understand what apprenticeships involve and why they could be a great next step for your child.

Key facts about apprenticeships

- An apprenticeship is a real job for individuals aged 16+ (with no upper age limit).*
- All apprentices will earn a salary, which will vary depending on the role, but must be at least the National Minimum Wage for apprentices, which is currently £8.00 per hour.**
- Most apprenticeships typically take between 8 months and 6 years to complete.
- Apprenticeship levels range from level 2 (foundation and intermediate) through to level 7 (master's level).
- Apprenticeship training costs are paid for by the employer and/or the government.*
- Each apprenticeship has its own minimum paid off-the-job training, which apprentices spend learning and gaining valuable skills and qualifications.
- Most 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.
- There are now nearly 700 apprenticeship standards.
- According to Government statistics, nearly 70% of occupations can now be entered via an apprenticeship.***
- Apprenticeship vacancies are advertised throughout the year, covering a wide range of job roles.



Watch this five-minute animated film all about apprenticeships: **amapps.uk/assembly-film**

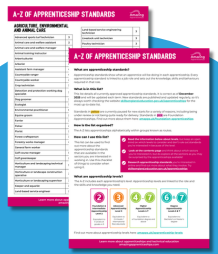
*some standards are only funded for those aged 22+ if eligibility is met

**correct as of April 2026

***Apprenticeship achievements - An update for the sector

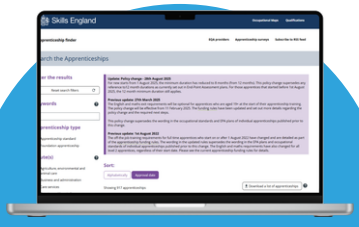
Apprenticeship standards

Apprenticeship standards show what an apprentice will be doing in each apprenticeship. Every standard is linked to a job role and sets out the knowledge, skills and behaviours required in that role. Explore the standards using our A-Z and the Skills England website.



A-Z of apprenticeship standards

amapps.uk/a-zstandards



Skills England

amapps.uk/skills-england-apprenticeships

Explore our Parent Zone for lots more information and resources to support your child with their next steps. Visit amazingapprenticeships.com/zones/parent

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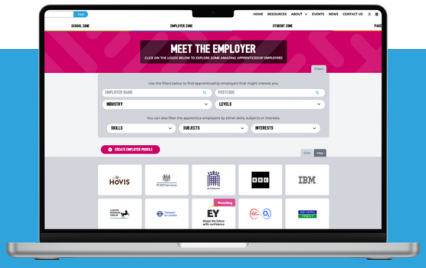
Structure of an apprenticeship

Employers and training providers work together to make sure an apprenticeship is well planned and the apprentice is properly supported. The employer shapes the day-to-day job role and gives regular supervision, while the training provider delivers the structured learning linked to the apprenticeship standard. They agree a training plan, monitor progress and prepare the apprentice for assessments, making sure workplace responsibilities and off-the-job learning fit well together.

Explore employers and search for vacancies

It is important to explore employers of all sizes and their apprenticeship vacancies. Here are just some ways you can do this:

- Employer websites and social media - lots of larger employers will have dedicated pages for careers and apprenticeships in particular.
- Vacancy listings like our Higher & Degree Listing and Vacancy Snapshot mailing are a good way to find out about apprentice employers and what they offer.
- Find an apprenticeship is the government website which lists live apprenticeship vacancies.
- Meet the Employer is a great way to go behind the scenes and meet some amazing apprenticeship employers.



Explore Meet the Employer: **amazingapprenticeships.com/meet-the-employer**

Applying - what to consider

- Application processes and timelines will vary between different employers. Some could start recruiting as early as one year before they want the apprentice to start.
- Deadlines will be different for each role, but don't wait until the deadline to apply. If employers receive a high volume of responses, they may close their application window early.
- You can apply for more than one apprenticeship at a time.
- Find out everything you need to know about getting ready to apply and applying for apprenticeships in our guides.



Get ready to apply guide
Step-by-step guide to applying

amapps.uk/guides-to-applying

Additional support

For aspiring apprentices with learning differences, disabilities and health conditions, there is support available. Employers can offer reasonable adjustments from the recruitment process through to additional support on the apprenticeship itself. Access our SEND Rapid Read bundle to find out more.



SEND Rapid Reads: **amapps.uk/send-bundle**

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