



Directions

CAREERS, INFORMATION, ADVICE & GUIDANCE

Options after Sixth Form

Higher Apprenticeships

Degree Apprenticeships

Sponsored Degrees

Employment

University

GAP Year



Content

This presentation will cover:

- Higher/Degree Apprenticeships –
The basics
Work areas covered
Pros and cons
Further information websites
- Apprenticeship Vacancies
Where to look
When to apply
Selection process



Apprenticeships – the basics

What is an Apprenticeship?

An Apprenticeship is a paid work based learning programme which leads to nationally recognised qualifications in specific vocational areas.

Levels of Apprenticeships

- ▶ Degree - Level 6/7 is equivalent to Bachelor's/Master's Degree.
- ▶ Higher - Level 4/5 is equivalent to Higher National Diploma/Foundation Degree.
- ▶ Advanced - Level 3 is equivalent to 2 'A' Levels at grade C.
- ▶ Intermediate - Level 2 is equivalent to 5 GCSE's grade 9 – 4.

Apprenticeships – the basics

How long does an apprenticeship take to complete?

- ▶ Degree apprenticeships last between 3 – 6 years.
- ▶ Higher apprenticeships last between 1 – 4 years with many moving onto a degree apprenticeship.

What are the entry requirements?

These will vary from employer to employer with some requiring specific grades and subjects.

- ▶ Degree apprenticeships – tend to require 3 'A' levels or an equivalent Level 3 qualification (similar to entry requirements for a traditional degree course).
- ▶ Higher apprenticeships – typical requirements are a minimum of 2 'A' levels or an equivalent Level 3 qualification.

Apprenticeships – the basics

What does a Higher/Degree apprenticeship involve?

- ▶ There is an apprenticeship standard for each job role which sets out the knowledge, skills and behaviours required for that role.
- ▶ A minimum of 20% of an apprentice's time must be spent on off the job training/study. The employer will partner up with a specific college, training provider or university to deliver this.
- ▶ An apprentice may study in a number of different ways:
 - day release
 - block release
 - online
 - a combination of the above

Apprenticeships – the basics

How is it assessed?

Apprentices must take an independent assessment at the end of their training which tests their ability to do the job as well as their academic learning. The assessment methods may vary but could involve written exams, and observation of work. There may also be assignments to do throughout the course.



Please Note!

Every apprenticeship is different and it is important to check the details with the employer.

Apprenticeships

What sectors are higher and degree apprenticeships currently available in?

Agriculture, Environmental & Animal Care Engineering & Manufacturing
Arts, Media and Publishing Health, Public Service & Care
Business, & Administration Information & Communication Technology
Catering & Hospitality Legal, Finance & Accounting
Construction, Planning & Built Environment Protective Services
Creative & Design Retail & Commercial Enterprise
Digital Sales, Marketing & Procurement
Education and Childcare Science and Maths
Transport & Logistics

The Institute for Apprenticeships and Technical Education website lists individual job roles.

www.instituteforapprenticeships.org/apprenticeship-standards/

Apprenticeships - advantages



- ▶ No student debt as tuition fees are paid for.
- ▶ Earn a salary while learning.
- ▶ Gain hands-on experience in your chosen career.
- ▶ Start on career path earlier.

Apprenticeships - disadvantages



- ▶ It is not an easy option. An apprentice needs to balance academic study with work commitments — time management skills required.
- ▶ Although studying a higher education qualification, the student life experience will be different compared to those studying full-time.
- ▶ Location of vacancies – what is available locally/within commuting distance?
- ▶ Might not be a possible route for career choice.

Apprenticeships

Need more information?

www.gov.uk/become-apprentice

www.ratemyapprenticeship.co.uk

www.ucas.com/understanding-apprenticeships

www.prospects.ac.uk/jobs-and-work-experience/apprenticeships

Apprenticeship standards –

The Institute for Apprenticeships and Technical Education has information on each job role. This includes content, typical entry requirements and length of the apprenticeship.

www.instituteforapprenticeships.org/apprenticeship-standards/



Apprenticeships

Need more information?

Apprentice stories and profiles –

www.notgoingtouni.co.uk/inspirations

<https://amazingapprenticeships.com/apprentice-stories/>

Parents packs –

<https://amazingapprenticeships.com/resources/>

www.ratemyapprenticeship.co.uk/advice/apprenticeships-parents



Apprenticeship vacancies – where to look

National Apprenticeship Service

Company websites



University websites



Careers Information and Job Board websites

Social Media



Vacancy websites

National Apprenticeship Service

www.findapprenticeship.service.gov.uk/apprenticeshipsearch

www.gov.uk/government/publications/higher-and-degree-apprenticeships - scroll down to the Higher and Degree vacancy listing.

Careers information and job board websites

www.allaboutschooleavers.co.uk

<https://studentladder.co.uk>

<https://careerfinder.ucas.com>

<https://targetcareers.co.uk>

www.notgoingtouni.co.uk

www.indeed.co.uk

www.milkround.com/school-leavers

www.getmyfirstjob.co.uk

University websites – for example Anglia Ruskin University lists vacancies.

<https://aru.ac.uk/study/degree-apprenticeships/employer/current-vacancies>

Vacancy Example

Environmental Practitioner Degree Apprenticeship

Employer – The Environment Agency

Annual salary - £19,370.

Start Date – September.

Apprenticeship duration – 60 months.

Qualifications required -

A minimum of two A Levels (or equivalent) grades A – C.

Five GCSE's Grade 9 - 4 including English and Maths.

Qualification to be studied -

BSc (Hons) Environmental Science (Practitioner) through Keele University.
(Combination of block release and distance learning).

Vacancy example

Audit Assistant School Leaver Apprenticeship.

Employer / Location – Accountancy firm, Chelmsford.

Apprenticeship duration - 2 years.

Scheme -

A 2 year programme that involves hands-on business experience while working towards professional qualifications.

Qualifications required -

112 UCAS points across 3 A Levels. (e.g. BBC/A*CD/ABD)

Vacancy example

Paralegal Apprenticeship

Employer/Location – Law firm, Chelmsford.

Apprenticeship duration - 2 years

Qualifications required -

A Levels or an equivalent qualification.

Qualification to be studied –

Level 4 Certificate of Higher Education in Legal Services, which is equivalent to the first year of a law undergraduate degree.

On completion there may be an opportunity to join the Level 7 solicitor apprenticeship. This take 4 years to complete.

Vacancy example

Engineering Apprenticeship

Employer/Location – Engineering firm, Chelmsford.

Qualifications required -

Three A Levels to include Maths at grade B or above plus a science or engineering based subject OR BTEC Level 3 Distinction in an engineering discipline.

Five GCSEs grades 9 – 4 to include English and Maths at grade 5 or above.

Qualification to be studied –

Can progress up to degree level.

When to apply

- ▶ Some large companies start advertising their apprenticeship vacancies in the Autumn around October /November onwards.
- ▶ Others will begin appearing after Christmas from January/ February onwards.
- ▶ Much smaller companies may not start advertising their opportunities until April/May.
- ▶ The 'Amazing apprenticeships' website has a 'Time to apply' page which lists large companies and when their vacancies normally appear.

<https://amazingapprenticeships.com/vacancies/time-to-apply/>

Selection process

This may involve some or all of the following -

- ▶ **Initial application**
- ▶ **Online tests – for example aptitude tests.**
- ▶ **Telephone interview**
- ▶ **Video interview**
- ▶ **Assessment centre – may include group activities, role play, presentations.**
- ▶ **One to one interview(s)**

A common question

Should I take a full time university course or a Higher/Degree apprenticeship?

Things to consider:

Do you have a specific career in mind?

Is there an apprenticeship route available into this career?

Would an apprenticeship suit your style of learning?

Have you the self-discipline to juggle high level study alongside employment?

Do you want to experience the university student life?

Are you keen to explore your favourite subject(s) in more depth and leave your career choices open?

For further help or information
please contact
Jane Cure,
the school careers adviser
on
Janelouise.cure@notleyhigh.com



<https://directions-careers.co.uk/useful-information/>