

Apprenticeships Deliver Careers Professional's Update



Apprenticeships newsletter: Thames Valley

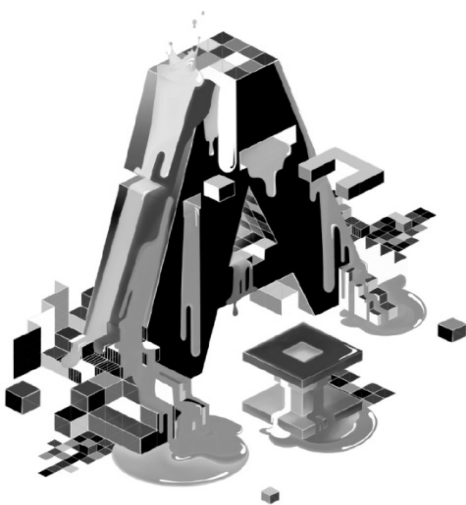
Issue 1 Summer 2013

Welcome to Issue one of **Apprenticeships Deliver**, the quarterly newsletter that keeps you up-to-date with all things Apprenticeships. This publication is primarily intended for professionals who engage with young people and adults around careers information, advice and guidance who want current knowledge of the programme from a national policy basis, to local flavours of best practice, local information and area contacts.



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Back to basics

What is an Apprenticeship?

An Apprenticeship is a way for young people to earn while they learn in a real job, gaining a real qualification and a real future.

An Apprenticeship is made up of a group of qualifications called a framework. This comprises the following strands:

- Competence (NVQ) – this is the hands on part of the framework. It proves that the apprentice is competent in a range of situations
- Technical Certificate – this is the theory part of the qualification
- Functional Skills including English and Maths
- Employee rights and responsibilities

What types of Apprenticeships are available?

Apprenticeships cover more than **170 industries and 1,500 job roles**, from advertising and youth work to environmental engineering and nuclear decommissioning.

What levels of Apprenticeships are available?

There are three levels of Apprenticeship available:

Intermediate Level Apprenticeships (Level 2) – on completion this is equivalent to 5 A*-C GCSEs.

Advanced Level Apprenticeships (Level 3) – on completion this is equivalent to 2 A-Levels.

Higher Apprenticeships (Level 4 and above) – working towards work-based learning qualifications such as a Level 4 Qualification, Functional Skills and in some cases, a knowledge-based qualification such as a Foundation Degree.

Where can I get an Apprenticeship?

With up to 20,000 vacancies 'Live' at any one time you can apply using Apprenticeship vacancies which can be found at apprenticeships.org.uk.

Apprenticeship Webinars

The NAS team in your local area are hosting a series of Apprenticeship information sessions delivered via the web throughout 2013. They are aimed at schools, careers advisers, Job Centre plus staff or anyone that needs to know about Apprenticeships and how to apply. The dates of the next webinars are:

- Wednesday 6th November 2013 – 12.00pm
- Tuesday 10th December 2013 – 2.00pm

If you would like to attend or get further information about the webinars please contact amna.ali@apprenticeships.gov.uk

The Skills Show 2013 Skills

Why not join over 75,000 visitors at the UK's largest skills and careers event? Held at The NEC, Birmingham, 14-16 November 2013.

For more information please visit www.skillsshow.com

Register onto Apprenticeship Vacancies!

To find out how to register and apply for Apprenticeships, click on link below

<http://www.apprenticeships.org.uk>

It's a great time and opportunity to encourage Years 11, 12 and 13 to register their interest for Apprenticeships

Please drop us an email if you are interested in being added to our weekly Apprenticeship Vacancies distribution list that details local Apprenticeship vacancies including Higher, local Traineeship opportunities.

Traineeships

The Government has developed a new programme, to help young people gain the skills they need to secure a job and succeed in employment.

Traineeships will give tailored work preparation training to ensure young people develop the abilities and confidence needed to take the first step in their career, such as an Apprenticeship. Additional maths and English support will increase employability and earning potential.



Matthew Hancock MP, is responsible for Apprenticeships and Traineeships

24+ Advanced learning loans

Loans are now available for eligible learners aged 24 plus, studying at Level 3 or 4, or an Advanced or Higher Apprenticeship and will cover the cost of tuition.

Loans are not dependent on household income and there is no credit check. For Apprenticeships, the maximum loan amount will take into account the assumption that the employer will contribute 50% of the fees.

For more information visit apprenticeships.org.uk.

While employers are not required to pay trainees, they will be encouraged to support with meals and travel costs and all training will be funded by the Government. Employers will also be expected to provide trainees with a reference and an exit interview, or hopefully job interview, at the end of the work experience.

A Fact Sheet on Traineeships is available for download on apprenticeship.org.uk. Traineeship opportunities will be advertised on the Apprenticeship vacancy site. Alternatively, young people can contact their local college or training provider direct and any young people claiming Jobseeker's Allowance can speak to their Jobcentre Adviser for more information about Traineeships.

Visit apprenticeships.org.uk or call **08000 150 600** to find out more information on how Traineeships can help young people get ready for work.

Higher Apprenticeships

Higher Apprenticeships which are at level 4 and above are increasingly important to employers and the economy. They are now being viewed by young people as a real alternative to going to university.

In July 2011, the Government announced a Higher Apprenticeship Development fund of £25m to develop more of these frameworks up to level 7, and to increase choice for learners and employers. There are now over 30 to choose from with many more in development. For more information visit the employer area of apprenticeships.org.uk.

Contacts

apprenticeships.org.uk

The one stop shop for all things Apprenticeships, including applying on the Apprenticeship Vacancies job site.

IAG@apprenticeships.gov.uk

A dedicated e-mail address for careers and IAG advisers to contact to find out more about Apprenticeships

08000 150 400 / 024 7682 6482

A dedicated phone line for enquiries about Apprenticeships and Apprenticeship vacancies for young people.

08000 150 600

A dedicated phone line for **employers** who would like to find out more about Apprenticeships and how to recruit. We have local Managers who can visit employers with more than 250 employees.

Your local NAS contacts

Steve Jenkins

Business Development Manager
Thames Valley
steve.jenkins@apprenticeships.gov.uk

Amna Ali

Business Development Adviser
Thames Valley
amna.ali@apprenticeships.gov.uk

Social

Youtube

www.youtube.com/NASApprenticeships
Over 200 Apprenticeship videos uploaded

Facebook

www.facebook.com/apprenticeships

Twitter

@apprenticeships

National Apprenticeship Week 2014 – 3rd to 7th March 2014!

Write this date in your diaries and await invites to our local events.

Raising the participation age

As you may be aware, the Government has increased the age to which all young people in England must continue in education or training. This requires them to continue until the end of the academic year in which they turn 17 from 2013, and until their 18th birthday from 2015.

Raising the participation age (RPA) does not mean young people must stay in school; they will be able to choose one of the following options post-16:

- An Apprenticeship,
- Full or part-time education
- Employment with training.