

## THE BENEFITS OF DOING AN APPRENTICESHIP

- Platform for a great career
- A job that pays you to gain qualifications
- Highly fulfilling
- No student debt
- Build confidence in your abilities

In a government survey\*, apprentices cited additional benefits to their career including:

- Be better at their job (86%)
- Improved career prospects (85%)
- Greater job satisfaction (79%)
- Increased responsibility (77%)
- Better job security (77%)

Half (50%) of those who had completed their apprenticeship subsequently received a pay rise, and a third had been promoted (32%).

\* Apprenticeships evaluation 2017: learners survey



## APPRENTICESHIP FAQs

### How do I know if an apprenticeship is right for me?

Take our 'Are apprenticeships for me?' quiz. See [gcapps.co.uk](http://gcapps.co.uk) and visit /Candidates. Or book a personalised guidance session with an apprenticeship advisor.

### How much would I earn as an apprentice?

The national minimum wage for apprentices under 19yrs and those aged 19+yrs in their first year is £3.90 per hour. All other apprentices should be paid the national minimum wage for their age, and many apprenticeships pay more. You will be paid while training and for holidays, as any other employee. But the biggest benefit is the skills you'll gain – without any student debt.

### Would an apprenticeship cost me anything?

No – the employer and government cover the cost of your training, largely via the Apprenticeship Levy introduced in April 2017.

### How easy is it to get onto an apprenticeship?

There is competition so treat opportunities like real job applications. Form the Future can help you prepare for interviews, and dress smartly.

### Where else can I find more information?

There are other great websites that give insight into different careers, including apprenticeships. Search for these online: *Not Going to Uni*; *Get My First Job*; *Find an Apprenticeship* (a Gov.uk page).

For more information visit [gcapps.co.uk](http://gcapps.co.uk), speak to your careers advisor, or email [apprenticeships@formthefuture.org.uk](mailto:apprenticeships@formthefuture.org.uk)



## GREATER CAMBRIDGE APPRENTICESHIPS

Delivered on behalf of the Greater Cambridge Partnership



# BUILD A GREAT CAREER WITH AN APPRENTICESHIP

## WHAT IS AN APPRENTICESHIP?

An apprenticeship is a job with training that leads to a formal qualification. It is a way for individuals to earn while they learn gaining valuable skills and knowledge in a specific job role. If you like learning through doing, an apprenticeship could be right for you.

The apprentice gains this through a wide mix of learning in the workplace, formal off-the-job training and the opportunity to practise new skills in a real work environment. Apprentices are full employees with a contract of service.

Apprenticeships must last a minimum of one year but can last for four years. Most are 18mths to 2yrs. There are over 1,000 different apprenticeships and new ones are being developed and released all the time.

## LEVELS OF APPRENTICESHIP

There are four main standards of apprenticeship available:

Name	Level	Equiv. educational level
Intermediate	2	5 GCSE passes*
Advanced	3	2 A level passes <sup>†</sup>
Higher	4, 5, 6 and 7	Foundation degree & above
Degree	6 and 7	Bachelor's or Master's degree

\* at grade A\* to C or 9 to 4

<sup>†</sup> or Level 3 Diploma/International Baccalaureate

If you're starting an apprenticeship after GCSEs, most people start on level 2, but you can also start at level 3.

Degree apprenticeships give you the opportunity to attain a degree while working. You don't pay tuition fees and you will be learning and earning a salary from day one.



© Image courtesy of AstraZeneca

## WHO OFFERS APPRENTICESHIPS?

Many different companies offer apprenticeships. With opportunities from big and small companies across a wide range of industries, the sources below can help you find the apprenticeship that's right for you.

Visit [gcapps.co.uk/business-profiles](https://gcapps.co.uk/business-profiles) to see some of the key apprenticeship employers in our region. There are also live opportunities on the Current Vacancies page ([/apprenticeship-search](#)).

But it's worth looking beyond your postcode. *Vacancy Snapshot* on [amazingapprenticeships.com](https://amazingapprenticeships.com) showcases some of the best-known employers in the UK and their apprenticeship programmes. You can also visit the Gov.uk site [Find an apprenticeship](#).

## WHAT IS THE PROCESS FOR GETTING AN APPRENTICESHIP?

### 1. DO YOUR RESEARCH

Explore what employers in your chosen field expect from their apprentices. The 'Support' page on *Vacancy Snapshot* offers some useful hints and tips.



### 2. FIND YOUR APPRENTICESHIP

As well as the websites already mentioned, you can visit [apprenticeships.gov.uk](https://apprenticeships.gov.uk) and search there.



### 3. COMPLETE YOUR APPLICATION AND SEND IT TO THE EMPLOYER

It's a good idea to apply for more than one apprenticeship vacancy at a time. Be sure to tailor your application to each one. You can get help with your application from your school Careers Advisor or Form the Future.



### 4. PASS THE INTERVIEW

Your school Careers Advisor or Form the Future can help with preparing for your interview. Rehearse likely questions, and study the role you are applying for.