

HOLY FAMILY CATHOLIC
SCHOOL

Apprenticeship Information
March 2018

What are Apprenticeships - overview

- Apprenticeships combine practical training in a job with study.
- As an apprentice you'll:
 - work alongside experienced staff
 - gain job-specific skills
 - [earn a wage and get holiday pay](#)
 - get time for study related to your role (usually one day a week)
 - Apprenticeships take 1 to 5 years to complete depending on their level.

Levels of Apprenticeship

- Apprenticeships have equivalent educational levels:

Name	Level	Equivalent educational level
Intermediate	2	GCSE
Advanced	3	A level
Higher	4,5,6 and 7	Foundation degree and above
Degree	6 and 7	Bachelor's or master's degree

Intermediate Apprenticeships (Level 2)

- Intermediate apprentices work towards work-based learning qualifications such as an NVQ Level 2, Functional Skills and, in some cases, a relevant knowledge-based qualification such as a BTEC.
- These provide a foundation of skills for your chosen career, and allow entry to an Advanced Level Apprenticeship.

Advanced Apprenticeships (Level 3)

- Advanced level apprentices work towards work-based learning qualifications such as NVQ Level 3, Functional Skills and, in some cases, a relevant knowledge-based certificate such as a BTEC.
- To start this programme, you should ideally have five GCSEs (grade C or above) or have completed an Intermediate Level Apprenticeship.



Higher Apprenticeships (Level 4 and above)

- Higher Apprenticeships work towards work-based learning qualifications such as NVQ Level 4 and, in some cases, a knowledge-based qualification such as a Foundation degree.
- Higher apprenticeships will usually involve you embarking on a supervisor, team leader, or management position depending on the sector. You usually need A Levels or BTEC Nationals.
- Can lead on to Degree Apprenticeships (Level 6&7)

Who can apply?

You can apply for an apprenticeship while you're still at school. To start one, you'll need to be:

- 16 or over by the end of the summer holidays
- living in England
- not in full-time education

Where do I find Apprenticeships?

- <https://www.findapprenticeship.service.gov.uk/apprenticeshipsearch>
- You will need to create an account to start applying!
- Alternatively to save searches and create profile lists you can use Unifrog:
- www.unifrog.org

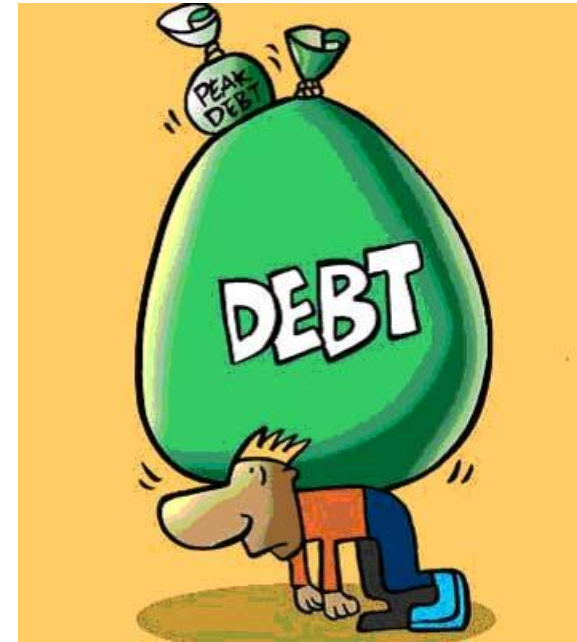
Reason 1 - Earn while you learn



- Apprentices will have the same opportunities as employees, earning a weekly wage
- The minimum wage is £3.30 per hour, but may be more. However, the average weekly wage for an apprentice is now around £170 but it won't stay that way. As you grow in experience, your pay will increase accordingly. [Research](#) also shows that an apprentice can earn almost £4,000 more than graduates per year in their first job.
- As an apprentice you will also receive the same benefits as other employees, such as pension contributions and leisure activities

Reason 2 – No debt

- After graduating from University – you could face a debt of £30,000+
- If you start an apprenticeship you won't be bogged down with tuition fees or debt. In fact your employer will be **paying** you to gain an qualification.



Reason 3 – Practical and Relevant Experience

- You will learn from experienced professional on the job, and will also be trained at a local college. You will be set targets to ensure that you are well supported and that you are progressing.
- You can complete this off-the-job training on day release or over a number of days at a time. The amount of time you spend on external training varies according to your Apprenticeship.
- All the modules you will study will provide you with the essential knowledge needed for your future career.

Reason 4 – Guidance and Support

- Your apprenticeship provider is there to make sure that your training fits your personal requirements, gives you the skills needed for your job, and satisfies national standards.
- They will also be there to help you through any difficult times



Reason 5 – Strengthen you CV

- More than 80% of apprentices said their career prospects had improved. With an apprenticeship you will have gained at least a year in industry, picking up practical working knowledge and skills which will be attractive to any employer.
- Some people think if they take an apprenticeship they will be stuck in an industry for life. Not true - you are picking up skills which will be helpful for any industry.



Reason 6 - Build your contacts



- Apprenticeships typically take between one and five years to complete, depending on the type of Apprenticeship and the level. In this time, you will forge relationships and contacts with clients, colleagues, and managers.
- Making a good name for yourself and building professional contacts will benefit you greatly in the future. You never know when you might need them for advice, assistance, or opportunities

Reason 7 – Progress within a business

- **You don't have to stop at the Intermediate or Advanced Apprenticeships. Many apprenticeships offer you the opportunity to study up to degree level.**
- And if you impress during your apprenticeship, you could also gain a full time position with the company.
- To have a foot in the industry at such an early stage in your career is massively beneficial, and could give you the basis to work all the way up to a management or director position in the future.

Reason 8 – Low or No cost

- **An apprenticeship doesn't have to cost you a thing.**
- If you're between the ages of 16 and 18, training and qualification costs will be 100% funded by the government.
- If you're between 19 and 24, the government will partially fund your course costs.

Reason 9 – Become an essential part of a team

- Recruiting an apprentices is not only cost-effective for the businesses, but also offers young people the opportunity to develop in their chosen career path.
- Employers can guide and train apprentices until they are a skilled and reliable part of the workforce, increasing the chances of them staying on with the business.



School Leaver Programmes

- Another option similar to a higher apprenticeship is the **school leaver programme**.
- Very similar to higher apprenticeships (and sometimes incorporating a higher apprenticeship as part of the scheme), school leaver programmes are marketed as THE alternative to university for high-achieving, ambitious students.
- Popular in sectors like finance and accountancy, these programmes aim to attract good A-level students who don't fancy the high cost of university or want to leap straight into a career.
- Competition for places is fierce and **entry requirements can be high**; although some only require applicants to have two A-levels.

School Leaver Programmes cont.

- These programmes might combine **work experience** with intensive training and the chance to gain a professional qualification (e.g. in accountancy) or an **undergraduate degree**. That's right! You don't necessarily have to sacrifice a university education.
- Degrees or professional qualifications are usually built into the programme and employers will often cover or contribute to the cost of completing the qualification.
- That means **no tuition fees, or cheaper tuition fees at the very least.**
- Examples of big-name employers who offer school leaver programmes include:
- RSM Tenon, Thomas & Adamson, Travelodge, National Audit Office, KPMG, Grant Thornton, Deloitte, National Grid, Airbus, Barclays.