

What is an apprenticeship?

8 KEY FACTS YOU NEED TO KNOW

- 1 An apprenticeship is a real job**
Available to individuals aged 16+ (with no upper age limit), apprentices are typically employed for at least 30 hours per week.
- 2 Apprentices are paid a salary**
All apprentices will earn a salary of at least the National Minimum Wage for apprentices which is currently £7.55* per hour. Many employers pay more!
- 3 Apprenticeships last a minimum of 12 months**
Most apprenticeships take between 1 - 4 years to complete. It will depend on the level and delivery model of the apprenticeship.
- 4 Apprenticeships range from level 2 to level 7**
There are apprenticeships at levels equivalent to GCSEs right up to master's level and you can now achieve a degree through an apprenticeship.
- 5 Apprentices do not pay for their training**
All apprenticeship costs are paid for by the employer and/or the government meaning that an apprentice will never have to pay for their training.
- 6 Apprentices will receive paid off-the-job learning**
The equivalent of 6 hours per week of an apprentice's paid time will be spent undertaking off-the-job learning, gaining valuable skills and qualifications.
- 7 Apprentices will spend the majority of their time on-the-job**
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.
- 8 There are thousands of apprenticeships in more than 170 industries**
New apprenticeships are advertised each week covering a wide range of job roles. You will be amazed at the variety and breadth available!

**The National Minimum Wage for apprentices is reviewed each April.*