

Apprenticeships – Post 16 Guide

Some information about apprenticeships:

- Apprenticeships are a minimum of 1 year and up to 6 years.
- 80% is work and 20% learning (learning can either be attending college one day a week, in 6-week blocks or on-site; it all depends on the employer and how they've set the apprenticeship up).
- 30/40 hours of work a week, this is paid and the rate at which this is paid is agreed by the employer and employee prior to beginning the apprenticeship.
- Minimum pay is £4.15 an hour (for the first year) and then it increases each year.
- Lots of opportunities to get promoted throughout the apprenticeship, but people can also lose their job if they do not meet the minimum requirements.
- Apprenticeships have holiday allowances like most jobs.
- Apprenticeships start at level 2 and go up to level 7.
 - o Level 2 is equivalent of gaining 5 GCSEs, Level 3 is equivalent to 2 A-levels.
 - o Starting point depends on the applicant.
- If students fail GCSE Maths or English, they have to do functional skills during their apprenticeship.

How to apply:

- Candidates can find an apprenticeship by searching on:
<https://www.findapprenticeship.service.gov.uk/apprenticeshipsearch>
- Students can set up alerts.
- They need to be actively searching on this website as new jobs come up all the time.
- Application forms will be posted online by employer via the same website above.
- You **have** to be 16 to do an apprenticeship, therefore students can only apply for apprenticeships that start after they turn 16.
- Students can also apply for different apprenticeships, e.g. catering and childcare, they don't have to stick to just one employment sector.
- As part of the application process, they have to write about:
 - o Main strengths
 - o Skills they need to improve
 - o Hobbies and interests.
- They'll also have to attend an interview.