



National Apprenticeship Week (NAW) 2023

In support of National Apprenticeship Week which runs from Monday 6th to Sunday 12th February, we thought it would be useful to give you some information about the apprenticeship landscape and opportunities available to pupils post 16 and post 18.

NAW brings together businesses and apprentices across the country to shine a light on the positive impact that apprenticeships make to individuals, businesses, and the wider economy. The theme this year is "Skills for Life"

Here is the link to the National Apprenticeship Week (NAW) website which has been put together by CareerMap. There are links to resources, live events and much more. At the end of this document there are other links to information which should be useful.

<https://nationalapprenticeshipweek.co.uk/>

<https://nationalapprenticeshipweek.co.uk/on-demand/>

Apprenticeships are valued just as highly as undergraduate degrees, are competitive and increasingly popular.

TOP APPRENTICESHIP MYTHS: BUSTED

Myth 1: Apprenticeships aren't as 'good' as degrees

An undergraduate degree is not the only option – there are plenty of routes to get you to your chosen career, including apprenticeships.

It is possible to complete a degree apprenticeship where you will gain the same degree as you would if you attended university full-time, but you will complete it whilst in paid employment as an apprentice and gaining valuable industry experience.

There are apprenticeship pathways that can lead you into nearly all the career routes you might be thinking about, including a doctor, a nuclear physicist, a sportsperson, and even a rocket scientist.

Myth 2: Apprenticeships are for people who do not do well at school

Apprenticeships are for everyone regardless of your academic background. They all have different entry requirements, just like any job or traditional degree, so it is about finding the best starting level for you.

Some apprenticeships do not need any formal qualifications at all, whereas some may ask for GCSEs, A levels or equivalent. An apprenticeship is a real job, so you will have to satisfy the criteria the employer is looking for.

It is also about finding the best learning style for you. An apprenticeship is a work-based route, which can suit practical learners, or people who want to gain industry experience. You can also combine a

degree with an apprenticeship if you would like to experience the apprenticeship route and get a degree at the same time.

Myth 3: Apprenticeships are only available in vocational industries

Apprenticeships are available in a range of industries, including ones you might not expect, like business, marketing, chemistry, sports, and journalism, to name a few. It is about finding the right route for you and what will best suit your interests and learning style.

Myth 4: Apprentices do not do 'real' jobs

As an apprentice, you hit the ground running from day one, working on real projects. Remember, as an apprentice you are an employee. It is not like volunteering or doing work experience. You might be working with paying clients, treating patients on a nursing ward, or helping design new buildings, to name a few examples.

You will get support from your employer and will have a mentor or supervisor to guide you, so do not worry, you will not be expected to know everything from day one. You will get objectives set at the start of your apprenticeship so you know what you will be working towards, and this will be measured regularly.

Myth 5: Apprenticeships are poorly paid

All apprentices are entitled to a minimum of £4.81 per hour. However, many companies pay more. The average salary of a degree apprentice in the UK is £22,500*.

Apprenticeship wages will vary depending on each company and the sector you are interested in. There are also different rates of pay depending on your age and what year of your apprenticeship you are in.

To find more detailed salary information, have a look at some specific vacancies to see what you can expect.

**Glassdoor, correct as of October 2022*

Myth 6: An apprenticeship will not lead to a career

An apprenticeship is a work-based route to get you into your chosen career. An apprenticeship can make you a great asset to a company as you will have lots of industry experience and skills by the time you are qualified.

Degree apprentices are particularly sought after because you gain a university degree as well as years of work experience.

An apprenticeship might be the right path for you if...

- You want to earn while you learn
- You prefer hands-on learning to writing essays or attending lectures
- You want, or need, lots of experience on your CV

An apprenticeship might not be the right path for you if...

- You like academic studies
- There is not an apprenticeship route into the career of your choice
- You want the 'university experience'

An apprenticeship is an opportunity to work and study at the same time. About 80% of your time is spent doing on-the-job training, and the other 20% is spent working towards a qualification.

Please find some useful information below:

[Find an apprenticeship](#)

Search and apply for apprenticeships using Career Finder.

[What is an apprenticeship?](#)

Get the facts on apprenticeships and how they work.

[Browse by industry](#)

From marketing to construction, business, and so much more, find out what industries might be a good fit for you.

[Degree apprenticeships](#)

Learn how you can gain a paid-for degree while getting industry experience and earning a salary.

Other Links

<https://www.ucas.com/apprenticeships>

<https://www.gov.uk/apply-apprenticeship>

<https://www.multiverse.io/en-GB/young-adults>

<https://www.ratemyapprenticeship.co.uk/>

<https://www.notgoingtouni.co.uk/>

<https://www.careerpilot.org.uk/information/apprenticeships>

<https://www.apprenticeships.gov.uk/apprentices/browse-apprenticeships>

<https://yourgameplan.co.uk/industry-insights/>

Website of the week

Amazing Apprenticeships (<https://amazingapprenticeships.com>) is a leading organisation in the education sector, founded to tackle misconceptions about apprenticeships and promote the benefits. It has lots of resources and information regarding apprenticeships and they have gathered a list of some of the events happening during NAW

Sources taken from the Apprenticeship Support & Knowledge for schools' programme (ASK) which is funded by the Department for Education, UCAS, Amazing Apprenticeships, CareerMap and Unifrog

