

#1 Money

You can earn while you learn. You may not get rich on your Apprenticeship but you will be paid a minimum of:

- £4.30 per hour currently for ages 16 to 18
- £4.30 per hour currently for ages 19 or over and in your first year
- National Minimum Wage or National Living Wage rate for your age when aged 19 or over and have completed your first year.

Apprenticeships offer access to highly competitive industries and significantly increase job prospects and you won't be landed with student debt at the end of it!

For businesses, Apprenticeships are seen as a great and cost-effective way of upskilling your workforce and retaining key staff.

#2 Gain Qualifications

Gaining qualifications unlocks your career path and develops your business.

Apprenticeship qualifications are for life and a step closer to developing your career...

- A Level 2 Apprenticeship is equivalent to five GCSE passes
- A Level 3 to two A-Level passes; and you can take it through to higher
- A Level 6 is equivalent to degree level
- A Level 7 is equal to a master's degree

Apprenticeships are an alternative to traditional university, giving employees the opportunity to gain a qualification and learn professional skills, with the help from a business.

#3 Respect

Completing an Apprenticeship will earn you respect, self-respect and the respect of your colleagues, customers and tutors. For those starting out, it can give you self and work place confidence as well as independence. For senior level staff members, it can help you develop all their knowledge into valuable tools to drive a career and business.

#4 Invaluable Support

Every Apprentice is assigned a tutor which is responsible for not just setting all your work, but also to help, guide and advise you. They are there to test you, but also to answer your questions and support you. Many will be carrying a world of experience ready to impart your way.

#5 Real Work Experience

Apprenticeships help ease youngsters into the world of work, teaching you not just the practical skills and knowledge you need, but how to work in a team, how to cope with working life, and how to enjoy it.

For those already working within the business they can be tailored to benefit you and your company, giving real focus and meaning to what you study and to the skills you develop.

#6 Employability

An Apprenticeship shows application, dedication, work ethic and confirms you have a set of skills businesses need. For the most senior members of staff who pursue the higher-level Apprenticeships businesses will have an even greater asset.

#7 Open to Anyone

If you didn't get all the GCSE grades you need to progress to the next level of your chosen career, while on your Apprenticeship you will often be provided with the chance to re-sit qualifications e.g. maths and English.

It may be that your career has not progressed because you did not have the relevant / required qualification. An Apprenticeship can deliver that allowing you to progress to the next level.

#8 Get Money Off

A benefit of being enrolled onto an Apprenticeship is a student card which gives you money off in clothing shops, restaurants and more. Even though Apprentices are getting paid they are still classed as a student.

#9 Paid Holidays

An Apprentice is entitled to 20 days paid holiday a year.