

# CHOICES

The monthly parent & carer guide to apprenticeships and technical education

WHAT'S NEW FOR APPRENTICESHIPS IN 2025?

LEVEL 6 COMPLIANCE AND RISK SPECIALIST APPRENTICE, PRINCESS

LIFE AS A MATURE HTQ STUDENT

THE FUTURE OF T LEVELS AND THE SUBJECTS AVAILABLE

GET READY TO CELEBRATE NATIONAL APPRENTICESHIP WEEK

BBC BITESIZE CAREERS QUESTION OF THE MONTH

NEW YEAR - NEW APPRENTICESHIPS

APPRENTICESHIP VACANCIES COMING SOON

## WHY I AM SO EXCITED FOR NATIONAL APPRENTICESHIP WEEK!

HEAR FROM SKILLS MINISTER, JACQUI SMITH ABOUT HER PLANS FOR THE WEEK



# CONTENTS

3

## CHANGES COMING IN 2025

Learn about three big changes coming to apprenticeships in 2025.

4

## APPRENTICE INSIGHT: PRINCESS

Hear from Princess, a level 6 compliance and risk specialist apprentice with Barclays.

6

## APPRENTICESHIPS WITH DUNELM

Discover exciting apprenticeships with the UK's No.1 homewares retailer.

7 **ON THE COVER**

## INTERVIEW WITH JACQUI SMITH

Why Jacqui is pleased to take on the role of Minister, and why she is excited about NAW2025.

10

## GET INVOLVED IN #NAW 2025

What to expect from National Apprenticeship Week 2025, and how to get involved.

11

## HTQ STUDENT INSIGHT: KHAWAR

Hear from Khawar, a mature HTQ student using his course to support his career development.

13

## NATIONAL TRUST APPRENTICESHIPS

Explore some of the fascinating roles working with the National Trust.

14

## QUESTION OF THE MONTH

Tackling your biggest questions each month with the BBC Bitesize Careers Team.

15

## SECURING YOUR FUTURE

Discover an exciting route into the security industry through apprenticeships.

17

## T LEVELS SUBJECTS: THE LATEST

Explore the range of exciting post-16 technical qualifications through T Levels.

18

## NEW YEAR - NEW APPRENTICESHIPS

Take a look at the latest apprenticeship standards to be delivered in 2025.

# 3 BIG CHANGES TO APPRENTICESHIPS IN 2025



The government has announced some changes to apprenticeships that will be launched in 2025. We caught up with Anna Morrison CBE, founder of Amazing Apprenticeships to find out what this means for young people and adults who are considering apprenticeships this year.

## Foundation apprenticeships

New Foundation Apprenticeships will be paid and employed positions, designed to support young people in a flexible way to help them progress into full employment as an apprentice. They will likely be linked to certain occupations and industries, and we expect to hear more about the detail of foundation apprenticeships in Spring 2025.

**When will this start?** The first delivery will be planned for August/September 2025.

## Higher national minimum wage

In October 2024, the government announced changes to the National Minimum Wage for all workers. This included an increase for apprentices, with the National Minimum Wage for apprentices rising to £7.55 per hour (an increase of 18% from the current rate of £6.40 per hour). Many employers will pay their apprentices higher than the minimum wage, but some employers will start apprentices on this rate, and then increase their salary throughout the apprenticeship. It will depend on each individual employer.

**When will this start?** The new rate for the National Minimum Wage for Apprentices will commence in April 2025.

## Shorter apprenticeships

All apprenticeships currently have a minimum duration of at least 12 months, regardless of the level, or the prior experience or qualification level of the individual apprentice. The government has announced that in 2025, new 'shorter duration' apprenticeships will be introduced, potentially meaning that individuals that meet certain criteria will be permitted to complete their apprenticeship in a shorter timescale.

**When will this start?** The introduction of shorter duration apprenticeships is expected in August/September 2025.

To stay up to date with the latest apprenticeships news and developments, sign up to join our free informative monthly webinars: [amazingapprenticeships.com/workshops-webinars](https://amazingapprenticeships.com/workshops-webinars)



# APPRENTICE INSIGHT PRINCESS JAMES

---

**Meet Princess, a level 6 compliance and risk specialist apprentice with Barclays.**

---

## **Tell us a bit about your role.**

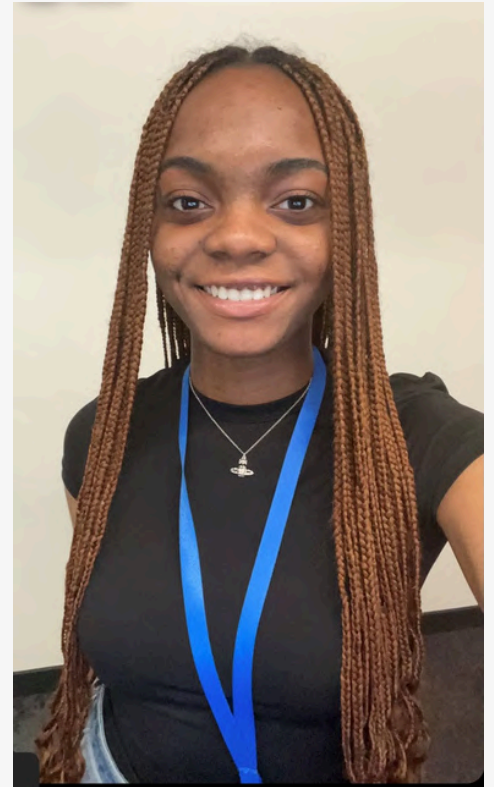
I'm in my last year of my apprenticeship and my current role is within the Investment Risk Oversight team. In this team we are responsible for the risk oversight of the Private Bank and Wealth Management investments business, which manages investments and invests on behalf of their clients. Outside of my day-to-day role, I am part of our gender employee resource group (WiN) and was able to host and plan events for Careers week 2024 in September. I'm also part of the Black Professionals Resource Group and I've had the opportunity to help oversee events which were held for Black History Month 2024. I've just started another new role this month, as an Ambassador for our Graduate, Apprentice, Intern Network (GAIN).

## **Why did you choose to do your apprenticeship?**

I decided to go into Risk because I found it very interesting and intriguing as I hadn't known much about it when I was at school. I decided to do an apprenticeship instead of going to university as I believe it gives a better hands-on experience of what you are being taught, and you also get to earn as well, which is a huge plus!

## **How did you go about finding an apprenticeship?**

When I was searching for my apprenticeship, I used apprenticeships.gov.uk, UCAS, RateMyApprenticeship, My World of Work and Apprenticeships.scot. I really had to venture out and research myself, but I had support from my mum. What made me pursue this role was the job description and the detail of what we were going to do within the programme.



## **How is your apprenticeship delivered?**

My training provider is International Compliance Association (ICA). As an apprentice at Barclays you are given the equivalent of 6 hours a week for off-the-job training study days, which you can take once a week to study and prepare for assessments. For our apprenticeship our degree is solely online and it is a professional qualification.

## **How do you balance working with learning?**

I balance working and learning by setting aside clear times to focus on my university work. Being organised is very helpful, as it allows me to know what needs to get done and by when, so I can prioritise my workload.



*Photoshoot with work to promote Early Careers*



“My inspiration is my mum, I love her work ethic and everything she does for me, and I strive to be like her!”

### Who or what inspires you?

My inspiration is my mum, I love her work ethic and everything she does for me and I strive to be like her!

### What are you most proud of during your apprenticeship so far?

What I'm most proud of during my apprenticeship is my increase in my confidence and being able to put myself forward more. When I started my apprenticeship I was very shy and kept to myself, however once I learned that you need to put yourself out there because no one else will help you with that. I decided that from then I will always put my head up for things that made me uncomfortable and that would take me out of my comfort zone.



Princess with her mum, Janet

**DAN**  
THE BLACK  
APPRENTICE NETWORK

Find out more about the Black Apprentice Network and their mentoring scheme for future apprentices here: [amazingapprenticeships.com/the-black-apprentice-network/](https://amazingapprenticeships.com/the-black-apprentice-network/)

SCAN ME 

### What would your advice be to students, parents and carers about apprenticeships?

Please push school leavers to at least consider applying for apprenticeships. I feel that it gives them a more engaging and hands-on experience of the world of work and allows them to grow and learn more as they progress through their apprenticeship.



Princess with colleagues at a careers fair

# APPRENTICESHIPS WITH DUNELM



**Dunelm is the UK's No.1 homewares retailer, delivering value and joy to help more and more UK consumers create a home they love.**

Dunelm offer a range of apprenticeships across the organisation, with something for everyone. All their apprenticeships offer the chance to learn and grow in a friendly and reassuring environment, where your child will be welcomed with open arms and feel a real sense of belonging. It is the perfect place for growing their skills and setting themselves up for success.



Dunelm strives to ensure their culture is inclusive and equitable, embracing and valuing diverse experiences, backgrounds and perspectives. They recognise the strength this brings to their teams and business and the benefit to the apprentice in feeling valued and being able to give their best.

From colleague networks, to diversity champions, and Wellbeing Buddies to Mental Health First Aid training, Dunelm is committed to supporting their staff in every area of their lives.

## Meet the Employer profile

Learn more about what it's like to work for Dunelm and their apprenticeship offer:

[amazingapprenticeships.com/employers/dunelm](https://amazingapprenticeships.com/employers/dunelm)



## Vacancies for 2025

Dunelm's apprenticeship applications open in **January 2025** for a September 2025 start.

Apprenticeship vacancies include:

- Digital Marketing
- Merchandising and Retail Management
- Data Science
- Buying
- Supply chain and logistics



You can view a webinar about apprenticeships at [Dunelm here](#).



## Dunelm's top tips for applying

1. Visit one of the stores – have a look at what products they sell and how they sell them.
2. Make sure you're prepared – the more prepared you are for the interview, the more confident you will feel.
3. Ask questions – make sure you have some meaningful questions to ask.
4. Ask for help if you need it – contact the Recruitment team if you need accommodations to support your interview.
5. Be familiar with the role – re-read the job advert and remind yourself of the specific skills of the role.
6. Be yourself – it's natural to feel nervous but try to relax and show the real you.
7. Check your tech – some interviews happen virtually so make sure you have Microsoft Teams and a strong Wi-Fi connection.

# IN CONVERSATION WITH JACQUI SMITH MP

“The skills portfolio is absolutely at the heart of the government’s core missions”

Jacqui Smith MP has been serving as Minister of State for Skills since 2024. We asked for her thoughts on taking on the prestigious portfolio and what apprenticeships really mean to her.

**Why were you so excited to take on this portfolio?**

The skills portfolio is absolutely at the heart of the government’s core missions, growing the economy, but also supporting our public services, building a stronger NHS, and leading the world in green energy, building the new

homes we need and breaking down barriers to opportunity. It’s an honour to be back in government on such an important and exciting brief. Skills provide opportunity - acting as a foundation for people’s careers - and enabling people to succeed and thrive, regardless of their background.

I’ve been a teacher in the past as well as a government Minister, so I know firsthand how vital it is to give young people good advice and guidance about how skills can really open doors.







### Why are apprenticeships so important to you, and what are your priorities for them?

Apprenticeships are crucial to ensuring that more people have the skills they and our economy need. An apprenticeship is not a course you have to take time out for or pay to do, it is a job, and it gives people paid work as well as invaluable, hands-on experience.

That means that anyone can take an apprenticeship at any time in their life, and in an increasingly broad selection of professions and industries as well. It's not just the traditional trades – crucial as they are for our housebuilding targets and plan for growth – it's also a huge range of professional and public service sectors as well. Just last week I was pleased to present the Apprentice of the Year award to one of our DfE apprentices.

The ability to get practical skills whilst earning a wage transforms lives and opens up career options to people who might not otherwise get them. They also support businesses to get skilled workers, which is why they'll be essential in realising our Plan for Change.

We're creating a fairer apprenticeship system that puts younger workers and those starting out in their careers first.

It's also why we are reforming the Apprenticeship Levy to the new Growth and Skills Levy, to give businesses more flexibility in how they spend apprenticeship funds and encouraging them to invest in younger and less skilled workers.

And we've already launched Skills England to bring the skills system together. Skills England will be the authoritative voice on where the skills gaps are – today and in the future. Skills England will also be advising government on how to make the most of our new Growth and Skills Levy.

“It's about giving learners and employers greater flexibility and creating pathways into well-paid, skilled jobs in growing industries”

### Apprenticeships have changed a lot. What excites you about how they're evolving?

High quality apprenticeships are now available in over 700 occupations. You can break into pretty much any sector of the economy as an apprentice, earning as you learn.

The pace of change is incredible, and apprenticeships are keeping up. Our new Growth and Skills offer is designed to meet this change head-on. It's about giving learners and employers greater flexibility and creating pathways into well-paid, skilled jobs in growing industries.

This is especially important as business needs evolve quickly. Whether it's green energy, advanced manufacturing, or creative industries, our skills system needs to adapt just as fast. That's why we're introducing new foundation apprenticeships – so more young people can get their foot in the door and access training tailored to the opportunities ahead.



We've also listened to businesses that are asking for more flexibility. Our updated levy system will give them the tools they need to thrive while supporting learners to build meaningful careers.



**What's your advice to parents and carers considering apprenticeships for their child?**

My advice is to keep an open mind and explore all the options. Apprenticeships today are so diverse. They're not just for traditional trades – though those remain fantastic choices – but they're now available in fields like accountancy, digital tech, healthcare, and even management.

For children with SEND, apprenticeships can be a brilliant route. They offer structured, hands-on learning in environments where support can be tailored to their needs.

Ultimately, apprenticeships open doors. For too long, vocational routes have been unfairly overlooked.

Apprenticeships are a great alternative to the academic route, and they give young people the skills they need to seize opportunity. My message is simple: if your child is considering an apprenticeship, encourage them to go for it!

**How will Skills England support more young people into apprenticeships?**

Skills England is all about identifying the skills we need to boost growth and meet the challenges of tomorrow and then ensuring that we have the apprenticeships and other technical qualifications to fill those gaps.

Through the Growth and Skills Levy, we'll give employers the flexibility they need to train a talented workforce while ensuring learners can access the right opportunities.

This isn't just about plugging gaps – it's about building a world-class system that delivers for everyone. A system where young people can thrive, businesses can innovate, and the economy can grow stronger. Our first education bill this Parliament is focused on skills, and it shows how central they are to our vision for the future.

“My message is simple: if your child is considering an apprenticeship, encourage them to go for it!”

**How will you be supporting National Apprenticeship Week?**

I'm looking forward to my first National Apprenticeship Week as Skills Minister, because apprenticeships are just so crucial to our education and skills system.

National Apprenticeship Week is always inspiring, and I'm excited to meet apprentices and T Level students to hear their stories firsthand.

It's amazing to see apprentices leading the way in industries like hospitality, media, and tech, highlighting the transformative impact of apprenticeships on individuals and businesses.

The Week celebrates growth, opportunity, and innovation, and I can't wait to connect with the incredible people making it happen.



# NATIONAL APPRENTICESHIP WEEK 2025

**National Apprenticeship Week** is the biggest week in the apprenticeship calendar. Here's what you can expect to see, and how you can get involved!

## When does it happen?

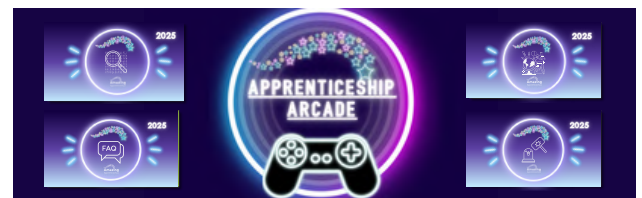
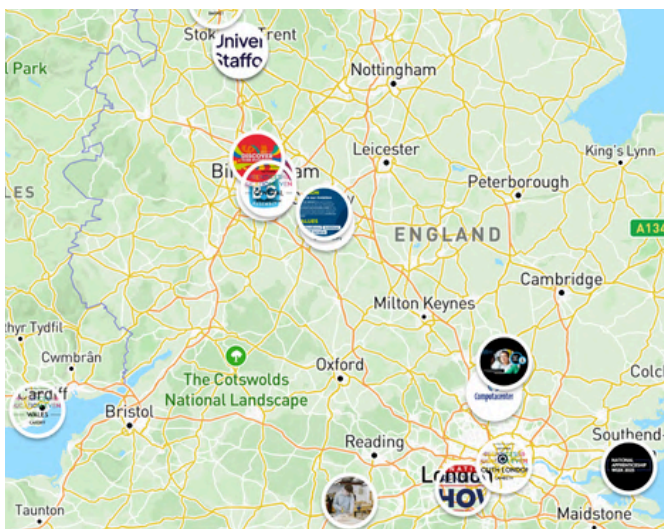
National Apprenticeship Week 2025 will take place from the 10th - 16th February. The week will be packed with exciting events, social media coverage and lots of different activities, locally and nationally, that you will be able to get involved with.

## How can I find out what is happening near me?

The Department for Education has an events map which features lots of national events that are running throughout England.

Visit [naw.appawards.co.uk/events/map](http://naw.appawards.co.uk/events/map) to see what is happening in your area.

You could also speak to your child's school or college and ask them how they will be celebrating. They will be able to share details of any local events happening in the community that you could get involved with too.



## The Apprenticeship Arcade

Enjoy a wide variety of games and quizzes, designed to help you explore apprenticeships and technical education in a fun and engaging way. All games are free of charge and can be used independently or within the classroom.



## The Big Assembly

The Big Assembly is a 100% free live assembly broadcast, shown to over 160,000 people across the UK! It's the place to be to learn all about apprenticeships from various perspectives, including former and current apprentices, employers, parents, education providers, and more. Use the link below to sign up for your free place.

SCAN ME!



**THE BIG ASSEMBLY**  
Tuesday 11th February  
2025 - register your place  
now: [amapps.uk/big-assembly](http://amapps.uk/big-assembly)

# STARTING OVER: LIFE AS A MATURE HTQ STUDENT

Khawar Ahmad, 41, is studying a Level 5 HND Computing, an approved HTQ, at Solihull College. With a background in banking spanning 15 years, he decided to return to his passion for IT as a mature learner. Balancing family responsibilities and studies, Khawar values the flexibility of the course and how it is locally delivered. He is keen on refreshing his IT skills and transitioning into the cyber security field, leveraging his extensive project management experience and his newly acquired specialist computing knowledge.



## What were you doing before the course?

Before starting my studies, I was in banking for 15 years. I began as a credit officer and eventually became a local business manager at Lloyds. I also worked overseas in banking in Pakistan. Although I had always been interested in IT, and had previously studied computing when I was younger, I ended up in banking but always wished I'd gone into computing.

## Why this course?

I noticed a college banner advertising "enrolment" while dropping my kids off to school every morning. After exploring the courses, I found an HND in Cyber Security and it seemed like the perfect fit.

When I was initially considering changing my career, I knew I wasn't going to go to university. If the course was over four or five days per week over three or more years, I would have found it difficult to fit into my life. Plus, I felt I'd been away from the field for so long, so I wanted to refresh the basics before working my way up in the IT field. This course's theoretical focus during the first year, and the flexibility of only attending classes two days a week were major factors. And the course is only two years. It allowed me to balance my family responsibilities and career aspirations.

## What is your course like?

The course structure involves modules in different specialist subjects, and projects and assignments are applicable to real world scenarios. We attend classes on Mondays and Tuesdays from 9:00am to 4:00pm. The first year emphasises theory, while the second year is more practical. We also have visits to places like Aston University. The environment is positive, with well-equipped labs and expert lecturers.

A recent assignment involved organising a public event and training for a company. The tutors are really supportive and give you a good balance between a structured approach and working independently. I find the two days and assignments manageable. I have three kids, so this fits into my life better and allows me to change my career and fulfil my responsibilities as a father.





“I was pleasantly surprised by how well the course fits into my life. The flexibility of attending classes only two days a week and the proximity to my home have made it manageable. Also, the strong support from teachers and the structured approach to assignments have been very helpful.”

### What has been your favourite part about the course so far?

My favourite part has been the visits, especially to Aston University for the robotics lab and learning about the Internet of Things. These experiences have been amazing and really align with what is happening in the IT world, so I feel prepared.

Banking is becoming more and more digitised so cyber security is essential and is a field that is new and globally interesting.

### What skills have you learned so far?

I've learnt a lot, including Python programming and organisational skills. The course has also helped me brush up on my IT fundamentals and gain a deeper understanding of cyber security, which is essential in today's digitised world. I've been getting merits and distinctions in assignments so far!

### Has anything surprised you about the course?

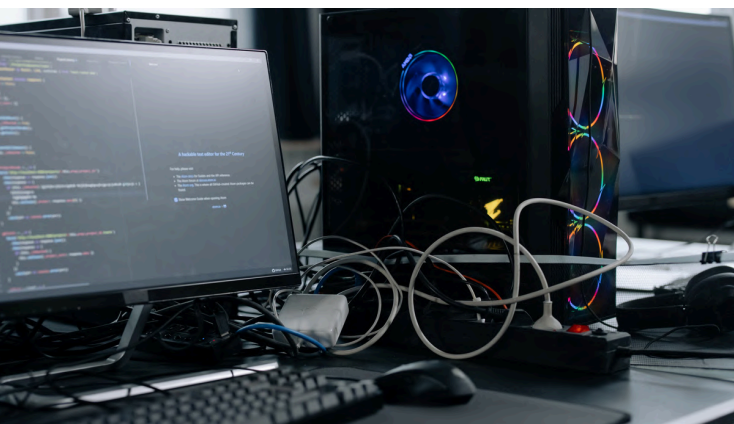
I was pleasantly surprised by how well the course fits into my life. The flexibility of attending classes only two days a week and the proximity to my home have made it manageable. Also, the strong support from teachers and the structured approach to assignments have been very helpful.

### What is next for you?

Next, I aim to gain relevant work experience while completing the HND. I'm currently looking for work for the remaining three days of the week and hope to find an entry-level job or a role where I can teach at the college.

My goal is to continue my professional development and switch sectors, leveraging my skills from the banking world and the knowledge I've gained from this course.

I think the future is in cyber so that's why I came here. When you look at AI and the cyber world, there's a lot of opportunity. I hope the knowledge and skills I get from this course will open doors for me.



### Discover more about HTQs

To find out more about HTQs and understand the range of options, please visit:

[amazingapprenticeships.com/higher-technical-qualifications-htqs/](https://amazingapprenticeships.com/higher-technical-qualifications-htqs/)

# NATIONAL TRUST APPRENTICESHIPS



Ready to kickstart your career with Europe's leading conservation charity?

The National Trust is Europe's largest conservation charity. In 2025 we will be opening up new apprenticeship routes for 130 young people who might not otherwise think a career with us is for them, expanding the number and range of apprenticeships offered at locations throughout the country.

## Locations

From castles to coastlines, and manors to mansions, the National Trust looks after over 500 incredible locations. The wide range of unique locations and job roles means that there are many different career opportunities available.

## Typical roles

Special places don't stay special on their own. Our dedicated teams make sure every one of our millions of visitors is having a great experience, every time.

Some of our current and future apprenticeship roles include:

- Business Administration
- Countryside Management
- Data Analyst
- Finance
- Horticulture
- HR
- Information Technology
- Project Management

The first round of apprenticeships will open for applications in May 2025. Individuals and those supporting them can sign up to stay informed of the latest news.



## REGISTER YOUR INTEREST

To find out more and stay in touch with the latest opportunities, please register your interest [here](#).

> LEARN MORE



# QUESTION OF THE MONTH...

**BBC**  
BITESIZE  
CAREERS



*Russell Kane tries his hand as an apprentice zookeeper!*

## 1 Help them decide what apprenticeship they want to do

Encourage them to talk to friends, siblings or family members that have done an apprenticeship to find out the pros and cons. Help them to identify and research organisations or companies they like the look of, or if they really don't know where to start, ask them to list their top five skills to fine tune what they're good at.

Together, you can then look for roles that use those skills. There are opportunities in a range of industries including Marketing, Law and even Space Engineering. Learn about some of the options available and watch comedian Russell Kane get his hands dirty as an [apprentice zookeeper](#).

## 2 Support them with their application

Writing application forms, CVs and cover letters for the first time can be daunting, but with a little help it doesn't need to be. The [CV toolkit](#) provides a step-by-step guide on how your child can best showcase their skills.

## HOW DO I HELP MY CHILD APPLY FOR AN APPRENTICESHIP?

We've teamed up with BBC Bitesize Careers to find answers to the top questions that parents and carers have.

Discussing your child's career options can feel overwhelming. If your child is interested in pursuing an apprenticeship, BBC Bitesize Careers shares three ways you can support them.

Organise practice interviews with family and friends, where they can rehearse speaking about their skills and experience with you or in front of the mirror. Check out our ["How to prepare for an interview"](#) article for more tips.

## 3 Keep trying!

If your child doesn't get the first apprenticeship they apply for, it can be disheartening. However, often disappointment can help us to grow, both personally and professionally. Hear from success stories, like Lewis Capaldi, and how they overcame failure, [here](#).

The [apprenticeship FAQs](#) is a helpful guide that you can use with your child to find a pathway that suits them.

FOR MORE IDEAS, VISIT THE  
BBC BITESIZE CAREERS  
[WEBSITE](#) BY SCANNING  
THE CODE. →





# SECURING YOUR FUTURE – APPRENTICESHIPS IN THE SECURITY INDUSTRY

Security is all around our everyday lives, from shops and shopping centres to sporting and music events, in offices, in pubs and clubs, and more. A career in the Private Security industry can be incredibly rewarding and offer many opportunities and pathways for progression.

**Security Operatives** provide safety and protection for the public and premises in roles including:

- Close Circuit Television (CCTV) monitoring
- Cash and Valuables in Transit
- Close Protection
- Door Supervision
- Security Guarding

They make a difference to the world we live in every day, by ensuring the safety of VIPs and family members in places such as Government premises, for example, or helping to transport money or valuable assets safely between premises, or controlling access and maintaining crowd control at entertainment and concert venues.

## Apprenticeships in Private Security

One way into a career in the Private Security Industry is through an apprenticeship.

The Level 2 Professional Security Operative Apprenticeship can provide you with the on-the-job training you need to be competent as a security professional and help you gain valuable first-hand skills and knowledge whilst you gain more experience. The off-the-job training will allow you to gain a valuable qualification.

Future career prospects include progression to the Level 3 Security First Line Manager apprenticeship for those who might be interested in being a Team Leader or future security manager.



## Entry requirements

The Private Security Industry is recognised as an emergency service with a growing demand for trained professionals. The Level 2 apprenticeship provides an entry route into the sector.

You need an SIA Licence to work in the industry, the entry requirements of which are:

- Be aged 18 years or over
- Pass an identity check
- Pass a criminal record check
- Hold the appropriate qualification linked to the SIA licence
- Have the right to work in the United Kingdom (UK)

## SIA License

Find out more about the SIA licence:  
[SIA | Get Licensed July 2022](#)



# SECURING YOUR FUTURE – APPRENTICESHIPS IN THE SECURITY INDUSTRY

## Gain relevant skills

Working in the security industry provides you with additional skills that you can use not only in your working life, but also your personal life, including:

- Listening skills
- Self-confidence
- Customer service
- Solving problems
- Decision making
- First Aid



## Hear from Paige, the first Level 2 Security Operative apprentice

In October 2024, Paige Braun has made history as the first apprentice to successfully complete the new Level 2 Professional Security Operative apprenticeship with a distinction, marking a significant milestone for women in the security industry.

Her achievement not only demonstrates individual excellence, but also highlights the growing opportunities for women in a traditionally male-dominated sector. Working with OCS and supported by Mercury Training, Paige has become a trailblazer for aspiring security professionals.

I found the course to be very interesting as it sparked debates and discussions between myself and colleagues. It has definitely enhanced my knowledge on why we follow certain procedures, laws and regulations.

"We are extremely proud to have been part of this historic moment," said Paul Lawton-Jones, Managing Director of Mercury Training. "Paige's achievement is a testament to her hard work and the potential of new talent in the security sector."

## Find out more

To find out more about a rewarding career in security protecting the public, visit:

[gov.uk/government/publications/the-sias-licensing-criteria-procedure-and-requirements/the-sias-licensing-criteria-procedure-and-requirements](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/the-sias-licensing-criteria-procedure-and-requirements/the-sias-licensing-criteria-procedure-and-requirements)



# T LEVELS: THE SUBJECTS AVAILABLE



The government has set out their commitment to T Levels as an excellent qualification option for young people, confirming that where a learner wishes to study a large qualification in a T Level route, this should be the main option for them.

## What are T Levels?

T Levels are post-16 technical qualifications taken after GCSEs as an alternative to A-levels, apprenticeships and other post-16 options.

T Levels are designed by employers to give students the knowledge and skills businesses need and give them a head start in their careers. T Level courses are high quality, with longer teaching hours than most current technical qualifications. One T Level is roughly equivalent in size to 3 A-levels and takes two academic years to complete.

## Which subjects are available?

- Accounting
- Agriculture, Land Management and Production
- Animal Care and Management
- Building Services Engineering for Construction
- Craft and Design
- Design and Development for Engineering and Manufacturing
- Design, Surveying and Planning for Construction
- Digital Business Services
- Digital Production, Design and Development
- Digital Support Services
- Education and Early Years
- Engineering, Manufacturing, Processing and Control
- Finance
- Health
- Healthcare Science

## FREE WEBINAR

Join a webinar on **16th January 2025 at 3.30pm** to hear from Susan Chambers from the T Level Delivery Division at the Department for Education, to find out everything you need to know about T Levels:

[amazingapprenticeships.com/workshops-webinars](https://amazingapprenticeships.com/workshops-webinars)



Find out more about T Levels here:  
[amazingapprenticeships.com/t-levels](https://amazingapprenticeships.com/t-levels)

- Legal Services
- Maintenance, Installation and Repair for Engineering and Manufacturing
- Management and Administration
- Media, Broadcast and Production
- Science

## Courses available from 2025:

- Marketing





# NEW YEAR - NEW APPRENTICESHIPS UNCOVERED!

*Happy New Year*

Apprenticeships are continually created and released through The Institute for Apprenticeships and Technical Education (IfATE). Check out some of the latest apprenticeships as we start a brand-new year.



You can find these apprenticeship standards and hundreds more here: [instituteforapprenticeships.org/apprenticeship-standards](https://instituteforapprenticeships.org/apprenticeship-standards)

Use the green jobs filter on the IfATE website which can be found at the bottom of the 'filter the results' section of the IfATE apprenticeship search page.

Craft painter and decorator	Craft painters and decorators advise on designs, colours, painting, spraying, decorative coatings, wallpapering, gilding, and sign writing. Projects may vary in size, type and duration, ranging from spraying and wallpapering for a domestic customer to the repair of a listed building to a large-scale commercial project.	Level 3
Dispensing optician	The role of a dispensing optician is to give advice on vision care, and supply glasses and contact lenses. Dispensing opticians interpret and dispense prescriptions using appropriate lenses, frame choices and accurate facial and frame measurements to suit their customer's needs.	Level 6
Furniture making operative	Furniture making operatives manufacture, and assemble, furniture and furniture components. Furniture making operatives may work in small, independent shops that produce custom furniture or factories that mass-produce pieces of furniture.	Level 2
Maritime mechanical fitter	The role of a maritime mechanical fitter is to use engineering drawings, data, and documentation to manufacture, install, test, fault diagnose, maintain, overhaul, and remove mechanical and fluid power equipment on ships and submarines.	Level 3
Publishing professional	The role of a publishing professional is to edit, market, sell, publicise, and produce a book, digital product, journal or other product (such as educational resources). They ensure that budgets and timeframes are followed, and products meet company and industry standards.	Level 4
Traffic operator	Traffic operators ensure the accurate flow of information throughout traffic, manage the movement of goods, and assist with the routing and planning of vehicles to ensure all deliveries and collections meet customer expectations.	Level 2

# RESOURCE SPOTLIGHT ON THE *HIGHER & DEGREE* VACANCY LISTING

## 1,000s of open apprenticeship opportunities coming soon!

The Higher and Degree Vacancy Listing is a bi-annual publication featuring apprenticeship opportunities at level 4 and above. The next edition will be published on the 28th January 2025, following October's listing which highlighted **2,300+** roles from a wide range of employers across the country. If your child is considering a higher or degree level apprenticeship they will find the listing an invaluable source of information as it includes vacancy locations, salary details and direct application links.



You can view the October higher and degree listing on the [Amazing Apprenticeships website](https://www.amazingapprenticeships.com)

### What are higher and degree apprenticeships?

Higher apprenticeships range from level 4 to 7 and are equivalent to a foundation degree or HNC up to a Master's level degree. They can be a suitable option for progression from a level 3 qualification (e.g. advanced apprenticeship, A-level, T Level or BTEC). Higher and degree apprenticeships combine work with study and may include a work-based, academic or combined qualification, or a professional qualification relevant to the industry. The employer may also include additional professional qualifications to the core content of the programme.

### Can my child apply for a higher or degree apprenticeship whilst also applying to university?

Yes, your child can apply for apprenticeships whilst also submitting a UCAS application for full-time university study. This allows them to keep their options open while they consider their preferred route. Unlike the limit of five applications on UCAS, there is no limit to the number of apprenticeship applications your child can make, as long as it is manageable for them.

### Who pays the tuition fees when your child completes a higher or degree apprenticeship?

Tuition fees are paid for by your child's employer and/or the Government. They will be learning whilst earning a salary from day one.

#### Download or share the listing

Download the October Higher & Degree listing in PDF format here:

[amazingapprenticeships.com/higher-degree-listing](https://amazingapprenticeships.com/higher-degree-listing)



#### More live vacancies online

For a full list of live apprenticeship vacancies browse the government website at:

[gov.uk/apply-apprenticeship](https://gov.uk/apply-apprenticeship)



# DATES FOR YOUR DIARY



As part of the Apprenticeship Support and Knowledge for Schools and Colleges programme (ASK), Amazing Apprenticeships are offering parents, carers, careers staff and teachers a schedule of fully-funded webinars throughout the year.

This series of informative webinars will provide an abundance of advice, information, hints and tips from expert speakers across the apprenticeships and technical education world. Each webinar lasts for 30 minutes and will take place on Zoom. Participants are required to sign up before the session and will receive an email confirmation and a reminder one hour before it begins. The webinars will be recorded and shared with all registrants after the session.

**BOOK NOW**



Book your free place and catch up on recordings of all previous webinars here: [amazingapprenticeships.com/workshops-webinars](https://amazingapprenticeships.com/workshops-webinars)

Date and Time	Title and Description
Thursday 23rd January 2025 15:30-16:00	<p><b>How to search and apply for apprenticeships</b></p> <p>A step-by-step guide to the different vacancy platforms for apprenticeships, including Find an Apprenticeship, and tips for supporting your students/child during the application process.</p>
Monday 10th February 2025 15:30-16:00	<p><b>Exploring the range of apprenticeships</b></p> <p>With more than 700 apprenticeship standards, there is an apprenticeship for almost every job role out there! Join us to hear about some of the known and lesser-known apprenticeship job roles, the different industries and employers offering positions and how you can explore which apprenticeship could be right for you.</p>
Thursday 27th February 2025 15:30-16:00	<p><b>Using Find an Apprenticeship to search and apply</b></p> <p>The Government's flagship system 'Find an Apprenticeship' is a great starting point for anyone considering applying for an apprenticeship. With more than 20,000 vacancies advertised each year, the platform provides a free way to search and apply for apprenticeships in England. Join this webinar to discover the new features on the site, including an enhanced application portal.</p>



Date and Time	Title and Description
<p>Monday 17th March 2025 15:30-16:00</p>	<p><b>Sharing information about HTQs with your school/college community</b> Watch this webinar to hear how to share information with students, parents/carers and colleagues about HTQs to ensure good knowledge and awareness of these fantastic qualifications and support your school's work in meeting the Gatsby Benchmarks, as well as how to support students during the research and application process.</p>
<p>Thursday 20th March 2025 15:30-16:00</p>	<p><b>How to impress in the apprenticeship application process</b> Hear directly from employers and apprentices sharing their advice on the best ways to impress in the apprenticeship recruitment process.</p>
<p>Thursday 24th April 2025 15:30-16:00</p>	<p><b>Preparing for Apprenticeship Assessment Centres</b> The apprenticeship recruitment landscape is constantly changing, with many employers now utilising different methods to assess candidates, including assessment centres. Join us to hear from employers about how they work, what they're really looking for and their advice on how students can prepare.</p>
<p>Monday 19th May 2025 15:30-16:00</p>	<p><b>Apprenticeships for individuals with additional needs</b> Many students have additional needs and may feel unsure about the support that will be offered by employers and training providers. Join us to hear about the flexibilities that can be offered and the support that apprentices will receive.</p>
<p>Thursday 12th June 2025 15:30-16:00</p>	<p><b>How to research and apply for HTQs</b> If your child is looking for a post-18 qualification that is flexible, job-focused and an excellent way to progress to a higher/degree apprenticeship, a full degree or a highly-skilled job, join us to find out more about HTQs.</p>
<p>Thursday 19th June 2025 15:30-16:00</p>	<p><b>How students can use the summer to start their apprenticeship research</b> It's never too early to start researching apprenticeships and the summer can be a brilliant time to help to get ready. Join us to hear from experts explaining how to help students to get ready for when vacancies open up in the autumn.</p>
<p>Monday 7th July 2025 15:30-16:00</p>	<p><b>Finished year 11 or year 13 and want to find an apprenticeship?</b> If you've just finished your course(s) and taken your exams, but aren't sure what you're doing next, or may want to change your mind about what you are planning to do, join us to find out about what to do right now to start finding an apprenticeship. You haven't left it too late!</p>

# STAY UP TO DATE



## SUBSCRIBE TO CHOICES

[CLICK HERE TO SUBSCRIBE](#)



- Stay up to date with the latest news
- Free to access
- Get your copy before everyone else

## VISIT OUR WEBSITE

[AMAZINGAPPRENTICESHIPS.COM](http://AMAZINGAPPRENTICESHIPS.COM)



- Access a wide range of free resources
- Inspirational stories of real apprentices
- Advice from employers and experts
- Live vacancies
- Visit anytime, anywhere

# DO YOU HAVE A STORY TO SHARE?

If you have a story to share about apprenticeships or technical education - we would love to hear from you.

Please reach out to the Amazing Apprenticeships team below:



[hello@amazingapprenticeships.com](mailto:hello@amazingapprenticeships.com)

