

# WHAT IS AN APPRENTICESHIP?

8 key facts you need to know

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## **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 £4.81\* 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.

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## **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.

