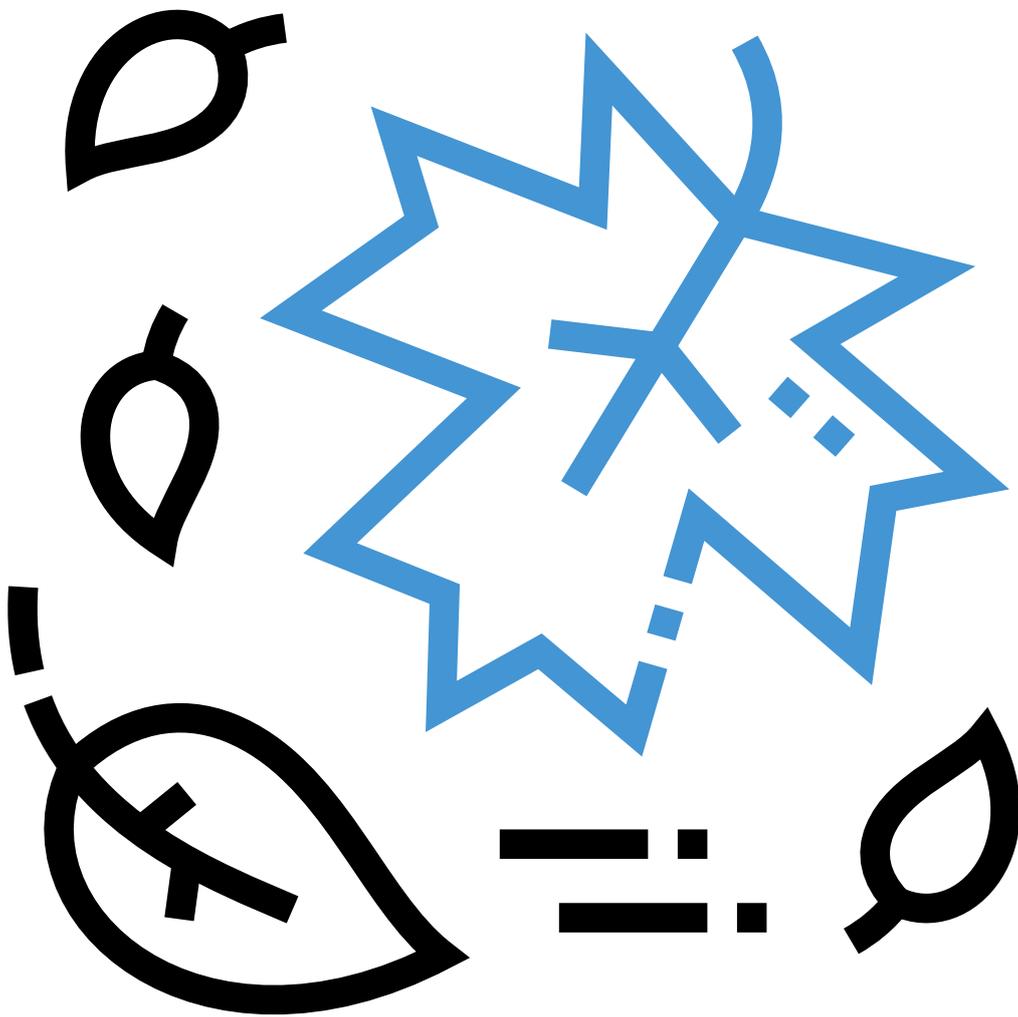


Parents and Carers' Pack

Helping your child to search and apply for apprenticeships



Edition 49: October 2023



Scan to
visit the
website



Welcome

Greg Boone, Head of the Careers Service for Young People Unit,
Department for Education

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to the October Parents and Carers' Pack. I'm really pleased you are here to find out more about apprenticeships and technical education.

In this edition, we are lucky enough to hear from several current apprentices via some fantastic case studies across two different industries: Law and Early Years.

Our 'Apprenticeships uncovered' section looks at the wide range of apprenticeships in the Construction and the built environment route and later in the pack we hear about the T Level Foundation Year.

Finally, I would encourage you to take a look at all the webinars on offer throughout the 2023-24 academic year and sign up for any that interest you. They promise to be a valuable source of important information!

Greg Boone
Head of the Careers Service for Young People Unit,
Department for Education



Contents

Click on any of the articles listed below to be taken directly to the page.

Apprenticeships uncovered	3
Apprenticeships in the news	4
Apprenticeships in Early Years	5
Apprenticeships in Early Years: hear from apprentices and employers	7
'The Big Ambition' survey	12
Dyslexia Awareness Week	13
T Level Foundation Year	14
Apprentice insight: Life as apprentices at Farrer & Co	15
Dates for your diary	18

Apprenticeships uncovered

Keep up to date with apprenticeship opportunities

Apprenticeships are continually created and released through The Institute for Apprenticeships and Technical Education. The list below focuses on the **Construction and the built environment route** and includes some apprenticeships you may not have considered before. You can find out more on The Institute website: www.instituteforapprenticeships.org/apprenticeship-standards

Scan to visit the website



Architect		Work on the design of new buildings and the redesign of existing buildings on projects of varying scale and type across the construction industry, including but not limited to the design of commercial, residential, community, education and infrastructure buildings and structures.	Level 7
Carpentry and joinery		Work with wood-based materials and associated products to create and install building components. Shape and cut materials, install partitions, doors, staircases, window frames, mouldings, timber floor coverings and erect structural components such as floor joists and roofs.	Level 2
Civil engineer		Work as part of a team of engineers and other construction professionals through all stages of development, design, construction, commissioning, operation, maintenance, and decommissioning of civil engineering infrastructure.	Level 6
Construction plant operative		Check, prepare and operate a number of construction machines (known as plant) used onsite in the construction sector including on railways, demolition and utility works (water/gas/electricity supply). Learn on four common types of construction plant including a 360-degree excavator, dumper/dump truck, forklift and ride-on roller.	Level 2
Domestic electrician		Work in a residential (new construction, installation or existing) setting focusing on the installation of new and the upgrade or repair of existing cables and equipment to enable safe and reliable distributed electricity within the premises.	Level 3
Facilities manager		Responsible for the safe, secure and comfortable day-to-day working environment for properties, assets (e.g. equipment) and services that must be fully compliant with health and safety and other legislation.	Level 4
Fire safety engineer		Provide specialist fire-related information across the built environment to protect people and property from the destructive effects of fire by applying science and engineering principles. Identify risks and design safeguards to aid the prevention, control and mitigation of the effects of fire.	Level 6
Low carbon heating technician		Plan, select and size, install, commission, service and maintain (including fault finding, diagnosis and repair) zero carbon central heating and hot water systems in buildings including dwellings and industrial and commercial premises.	Level 3

Apprenticeships in the news

Find out what has been in the news from the world of apprenticeships.

The **Black Apprentice Network (BAN)** announced their new partnership with Amazing Apprenticeships, beginning with a collection of apprentice stories and experiences, showcasing some of the inspirational current and past apprentices who are members of the Black Apprentice Network.

BLACK APPRENTICE NETWORK CASE STUDIES

MEET NATASHA, A LEVEL 6 DIGITAL AND TECHNOLOGY SOLUTIONS (SOFTWARE ENGINEER) APPRENTICE AT GOLDMAN SACHS

Tell us a bit about your role.
I am a junior developer in a trading and sales technology team. I spent most of my time coding and partaking in additional training provided by the firm. Every day isn't typically the same as things are constantly changing the more I evolve.

Why did you choose to do an apprenticeship?
I became an apprentice so I thought it was the easiest way for me to pivot into technology, whilst gaining experience and a degree. I wanted to go into technology as I realised that everything is powered by technology and code, and I wanted to have an impact in this area.

“ Apprenticeships have a wealth of benefits and can help a young person kickstart their career in the best way. ”

How is your apprenticeship delivered?
Queen Mary University London (QMUL) is my training provider. We go to university twice a week and go to work for the remainder of the week. We have a dedicated campus for apprentices.

What would your advice be to students, parents and carers about apprenticeships?
Be open to the opportunities. They have a wealth of benefits and can help a young person kickstart their career in the best way.

How did you go about finding an apprenticeship?
I searched for universities that offer degree apprenticeships for software engineering in London and applied to all of the companies I found. Apprenticeships were something that had some negative stigma when I was at school, so I didn't consider them until last year.

Me and my twin sister, who is about to start an apprenticeship at KPMG.

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

Discover more about apprenticeships: www.amazingapprenticeships.com

@AmazingAppsUK

BLACK APPRENTICE NETWORK CASE STUDIES

MEET MALACHI, A LEVEL 7 ACCOUNTANCY PROFESSIONAL APPRENTICE AT MORRISONS

Tell us a bit about your role.
I'm currently placed in a central accounting team and have been there since September. I have a four day working week and I start at 9:00am and finish at 5:00pm.

Why did you choose to do your apprenticeship?
I decided to become an apprentice because it means I get a real insight into my dream career and I get to learn things that you can only really learn on the job. Finance has always been an interest of mine since I knew about it as a career path, which made it easier for me to know which sector of apprenticeships to look at. I had always really just wanted to work and the idea of university never really appealed to me.

How did you go about finding an apprenticeship?
I used to search random companies and put 'finance apprenticeship' at the end of each search. I did work experience before applying, which allowed me to see which apprenticeships companies offer and what they were like. My school had done a few talks about apprenticeships being an alternative route.

How is your apprenticeship delivered?
I go to a training centre provided by KAPLAN, my apprenticeship training provider, but I have the option to learn modules online or on demand. It's up to me, but I prefer classroom learning.

Who or what inspires you and what are your goals?
My inspiration is LeBron James. He came from nothing and built a strong empire for him and his family and I think that's very inspiring. My ultimate goal is to run my own accounting firm one day and then open a Caribbean restaurant in Belfast.

What is your proudest achievement?
My proudest achievement is playing rugby for my region last year as I never thought it would be a possibility for me to represent at that level.

What would your advice be to students, parents and carers about apprenticeships?
Make kids aware of the opportunities out there. This can be done by either having a school LinkedIn page or even just sending out emails with apprenticeship vacancies. For parents I would say just be open to the idea of apprenticeships, as for some career paths it is a brilliant route.

I get a real insight into my dream career and I get to learn things that you can only really learn on the job.

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

Discover more about apprenticeships: www.amazingapprenticeships.com

@AmazingAppsUK

BLACK APPRENTICE NETWORK CASE STUDIES

MEET LAMAR, A LEVEL 7 SOLICITOR APPRENTICE AT NORTON ROSE FULBRIGHT

Tell us a bit about your role.
I am currently working in the Risk and Compliance department of my firm. Typically, I take part in completing Customer Due Diligence write-ups, screening low-risk clients that want to work with our firm. I started in September 2022 and I chose this career path because I enjoyed the thrill of debate society. I have always been an argumentative person, so I wanted a career where I could use the skills I learnt from debate society and take part in a job that is intellectually stimulating.

Why did you choose to do an apprenticeship?
After being rejected from three of my university choices and learning more about Law as a degree, I discovered apprenticeships through a mentor. I was amazed at the clear structure and benefits of this route. It was an easy choice and I wish I had found out about them earlier.

How did you go about finding an apprenticeship?
I used Rate My Apprenticeship, Indeed, Find an Apprenticeship (the government website) and looked on individual firm websites. I had help from my careers adviser when I reached a phone interview stage.

How is your apprenticeship delivered?
BPP is the training provider for my apprenticeship. I study on a Monday and spend the rest of the week in the office. Our university is online.

Who or what inspires you and what is your proudest achievement?
I was first interested in law after watching How to Get Away with Murder, but my main inspirations are my parents.

I'm proud to have joined the Black Apprentice Network as Events Officer because I have always wanted to advocate for the progression of black people and now I get to actively take part in providing engaging and insightful events for the community.

What would your advice be to students, parents and carers about apprenticeships?
Be open to the opportunities, because the hardest thing for a student not to have is support. The application process is difficult, so having support and guidance from both parents and teachers can make the process less stressful.

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

Discover more about apprenticeships: www.amazingapprenticeships.com

@AmazingAppsUK



Scan to visit the website

Find all the case studies here:

<https://amazingapprenticeships.com/the-black-apprentice-network/>

Higher and Degree Listing

The new Higher and Degree Listing launched on 17th October!

Discover vacancy details from a wide range of employers, including:

- Vacancy locations
- Salary information
- Direct application links



Scan to visit the website

Download the Higher & Degree listing in PDF format or find out more about the listing, who it is for and how to best use it here:

<https://amazingapprenticeships.com/higher-degree-listing/>

Apprenticeships in Early Years

Find out how to become an Early Years Practitioner

Many apprenticeships are a great opportunity for those looking for their first role after leaving full-time education, including Early Years apprenticeships. Find out more about them here:

<https://www.apprenticeships.gov.uk/apprentices/early-years-educator>



Scan to visit the website



START YOUR CAREER THROUGH AN EARLY YEARS APPRENTICESHIP!

A guide for young people.

DID YOU KNOW...

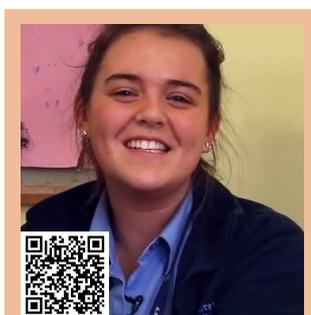
Early years professionals are crucial to helping children develop before starting school, and demand is high around the country for their specialist skills. It's a rewarding job where you get to see children learn and grow thanks to your support. If you want to work with children, an early years apprenticeship could be the perfect first step in your career. It's also an entry point to becoming a fully qualified Early Years Teacher.

AN APPRENTICESHIP IS A JOB WITH A SALARY

You'll also study the equivalent of one day per week to build skills in your chosen profession. The combination of practical work and classroom teaching means you can put into practice the things you learn. You'll gain skills such as communication, teamwork, problem solving and IT.

You'll be well on your way to achieving your career goals while others are just getting started.

MEET SOME APPRENTICES



MEET ERIN...

who loves seeing the children she works with progress.



MEET JESS...

whose apprenticeship has helped her build confidence.



MEET JACK...

who enjoys getting a real insight into a nursery setting.



DURATION:
APPROX. 12-18 MONTHS



SALARIES:
APPROX. £15-19K STARTING.



FIND OUT MORE
ON THE NEXT
PAGE

Apprenticeships in Early Years

Find out how to become an Early Years Practitioner

WHERE COULD YOU WORK?

Early years professionals are needed in lots of different settings, such as day care centres, pre-schools, nursery schools, reception classes, playgroups and hospitals.



We believe it's incredibly important to build a pipeline of talent within the early years sector. Not only do we want to create opportunities for all people, but we find that apprentices often stay on for a long time, undergoing training before moving into management roles.

Anthony Bromirski, Chief Operating Officer, Busy Bees Education and Training



United Learning
The best in everyone™



All About Children

CAREER STARTER APPRENTICESHIPS

EARLY YEARS PRACTITIONER LEVEL 2 OR EARLY YEARS EDUCATOR LEVEL 3

Early years professionals plan and run education and play activities for children under five years old, and make sure they're safe and happy. Many early years professionals find working with children to be extremely joyful and rewarding.

The Level 2 and Level 3 apprenticeships are both suitable for those with no previous experience. Level 2 may be more suitable for those leaving school at 16.

TYPICAL TASKS INCLUDE:

- ▶ Supporting or leading educational games
- ▶ Conducting activities such as crafts, music and cooking
- ▶ Preparing the learning environment with resources and displays
- ▶ Helping with trips and outings
- ▶ Feeding and changing babies
- ▶ Observing and assessing children to help their learning

FOLLOWING YOUR APPRENTICESHIP, YOU COULD PROGRESS TO:

- ▶ Early Years Lead Practitioner
- ▶ A lead teaching role in early years



FURTHER INFORMATION



Our [apprenticeships.gov.uk](https://www.apprenticeships.gov.uk) website has more information about apprenticeships and how to apply.

REGISTER ON FIND AN APPRENTICESHIP



Go to [Find an Apprenticeship](https://www.findanapprenticeship.gov.uk), the website to search for apprenticeships in your local area.

Apprenticeships in Early Years

Meet Chloe, a level 3 Early Years Educator apprentice at Busy Bees Day Nurseries, a top 100 Apprentice Employer 2023

What is the setting like that you work in?

For just over two years, I have worked at Busy Bees Norwich Meridian, a day nursery located in Norwich. We look after children from 4 months to 5 years old and have 112 places in the nursery. We have 4 different rooms within the setting, and I currently work within the 2 – 3-year-old room.



Why did you choose to do the Early Years Educator apprenticeship?

Prior to working here, I had some Early Years experience as I completed a placement within a nursery while at school however, due to having a bad experience, I walked away and went into hairdressing. I then saw the apprenticeship job advert for my current role and decided that this was the career I wanted. I chose to complete the Level 3 Early Years Educator apprenticeship as I want to ensure I can progress within the Early Years Sector. I wanted the opportunities to be able to develop my knowledge, skills, and behaviours daily, linking in my theory and my practice learning together.

How did you begin your apprenticeship journey?

When I first applied, it was for a level 2 apprenticeship role within my current nursery. However, after my interview, my training provider then explored my prior knowledge and skills, and it was recommended to myself and my manager that I was more suitable to complete the level 3 apprenticeship. This has allowed me to develop on the prior learning I had completed.

What do you feel are the benefits of doing an apprenticeship?

The main benefit of an apprenticeship is that you are gaining a qualification while learning the skills within your place of work. It has also provided me with more opportunities within my current setting and I am now going to be completing training to become a Special Educational Needs Coordinator (SENCO). It has also allowed me to develop and build on my confidence, not just in practice, but in myself to see how much I can achieve.



Apprenticeships in Early Years

Meet Chloe, a level 3 Early Years Educator apprentice at Busy Bees Day Nurseries, a top 100 Apprentice Employer 2023



What do you enjoy the most about your role?

I love being able to make a difference to the children and families that come to the setting. I enjoy supporting children to reach their next milestone by setting up engaging activities within the environment.

Tell us about a typical day.

As an Early Years Educator, you may be on the early shift which means arriving at 7.30am. This is so you have time to set up the nursery for breakfast and the start of the day by ensuring the environment is inviting. This allows for many parents/carers to then drop their children off before they start their day.

Throughout the morning, I will greet the children and have a hand over from their parents/carers on how they have been. Once settled, this is when we serve the children breakfast.

After breakfast, further activities will be added to the environment and this will allow time for free-flow play, both inside and outside. Throughout this time, we will ensure that we are spending time with our key children, supporting them in their play and sharing any photos with their parents/carers on i-connect. During this time, we also support the children with any care routines such as nappy changing or toileting.

Just before lunch, we group into our key groups to complete circle time. This allows the children time before lunch to complete some singing, story, or group activity.

Lunch is served at around 11.30am. Every day is varied, so children always try something different each day. We will

ensure that all children wash their hands. We sit down in our key groups and encourage the children to try new food and speak about what they are eating.

After lunch, the children will have some time to either have their nap or some quiet time which could include stories. This is a quiet time when children take a little break from the active aspects of the nursery.

After sleep time further activities will be added to the environment and this will allow time for free-flow play, both inside and outside.

Tea is served at around 3.30pm. Parents will generally start to pick up their children from 4pm till 6pm and we provide them with a handover of their child's day.

What advice would you give to someone wanting to do an apprenticeship?

Just do it!!

If you have a passion for a sector or job, just do it as soon as you can. Be patient at the start as there is a lot of information to take on board when starting a new place of work and a new qualification. However, once you get started, you will build on your understanding and knowledge. You will have the support of your setting and training provider, and over time it will get easier to balance all elements.

“The main benefit of an apprenticeship is that you are gaining a qualification while learning the skills within your place of work.” Chloe

Find out more about Busy Bees apprenticeships here:
<https://busybeestraining.co.uk/apprenticeships>



Scan to visit
the website

Apprenticeships in Early Years

Meet Chelsea, a level 2 Early Years Practitioner apprentice at Bright Horizons Day Nursery

What made you decide to do an apprenticeship?

I have always wanted to work with children; my mum had my youngest sister when I was 13 and I've grown up acting as a second mum to her, and I have two other siblings, so I've grown up around other children. At the age of 16 I went to college and started doing a Level 3 course in Childcare. The college I was studying at asked if I wanted to carry out a work placement, but it wouldn't be a paid placement. I started thinking about apprenticeships, vocational training really appealed to me as I could learn on the job and get paid too. I often get told by new people I meet that they can tell I work in childcare, which is always lovely to hear.



How did you find and apply for your apprenticeship?

Once I decided I wanted to do an apprenticeship I started searching online and I quickly came across Bright Horizons, so I registered my interest via the website. I decided to quit college by then as my heart wasn't in it, and it meant I could focus on trying to find an apprenticeship. We were still living under Covid restrictions when I had my interview with Bright Horizons, so it was arranged over Zoom, rather than in person. I was asked questions about safeguarding and the routine of the nursery. Not long after my interview, I received a job offer from Bright Horizons. I was thrilled, and an induction was arranged to visit and have a tour of the nursery. I was emailed lots of background information and given a start date, so it all happened quite quickly.

How does your apprenticeship work?

I started my apprenticeship in April 2022, and I am based full-time in the nursery whilst carrying out my studies alongside this. I'm expecting it to take around 18 months to complete my apprenticeship. I am based in the middle room of the nursery, looking after two and three-year-old children. My role is hands-on, from greeting the children



when their parents drop them off in the morning, to supporting with the day's activities, through to naptime and mealtimes; before parents begin to arrive at hometime. Having these responsibilities has really helped me apply the Early Years knowledge to my studies, so it's been extremely valuable. Every week I am given off-the-job time to study and my mentor at the nursery is always available to support me, which has really helped me progress.

What is your favourite part of your role?

My favourite part of the job is being around the children and watching their personalities and interests develop. We really get to know the little ones and they feel comfortable to share their feelings which shows that they have built trust with me, and that's very rewarding.



Apprenticeships in Early Years

Meet Chelsea, a level 2 Early Years Practitioner apprentice at Bright Horizons Day Nursery

What are your plans for the future?

I'm really looking forward to gaining my qualification, and I would like to continue and do my Level 3 in Early Years. It's been a very busy couple of years with the training and studying, and I'm currently deciding whether to carry on, or take a little break before starting the next qualification.

What advice would you give to anyone who may be looking for a career in the early years industry?

Be prepared - I underestimated how much paperwork and training would be involved. It can be quite overwhelming when you first start - I spent three days going through policies and procedures - there was so much to take in, but it gets easier and you soon find your feet.

Enjoy it - it's a really rewarding and fulfilling job to be part of a child's development in the early years of their life - it really makes a difference.

"My favourite part of the job is being around the children and watching their personalities and interests develop. We really get to know the little ones and they feel comfortable to share their feelings which shows that they have built trust with me, and that's very rewarding." Chelsea



Bright Horizons has an ongoing commitment as a leading UK nursery provider to help young people develop core professional skills and long-term career pathways in an industry vital to Britain's economic and social wellbeing.

Chelsea is one of over 500 apprentices currently working at Bright Horizons in the UK. The most popular apprenticeship programme is Early Years. Early Years apprentices will mainly work and study towards Level 3 Early Years Educator apprenticeships through work-based learning.

To find out more about apprenticeships with Bright Horizons, visit:
<https://careers.brighthouse.com/uk/en/apprenticeships>



Scan to visit
the website

Apprenticeships in Early Years

Hear from top apprenticeship employer, Kids Planet

Kids Planet Day Nurseries was founded in Cheshire in 2008 by Claire Roberts. It has since grown to be an award-winning family-owned group of 163 day nurseries across the UK with a reputation for excellence. It currently cares for 15,000 children. It has twice been placed in the Top 100 Apprenticeship Employer rankings.

The company invest heavily in training and employment schemes and also offers T Level Industry Placements. It is a main provider of apprenticeships through its in-house academy, and Gill Mason, Head of Training and Development says:

“Our early years apprenticeships provide a valuable pathway for individuals interested in pursuing a career in the early years sector.”

Kids Planet places apprentices and their employers at the very heart of its apprenticeship provision. The company is committed to providing specific employer-led apprenticeship training solutions for its network of employers via identified training options – which focus on long-term career pathways.

The clear progression routes in apprenticeship delivery have led to most apprentices successfully moving on to more senior levels within the company, and the concept of a lifelong career within the early years is actively encouraged.

Gill praises the values of apprenticeships saying:

“At Kids Planet we recognize the transformative impact apprentices can have in the early years sector, from entry level to senior management, from new recruits and existing colleagues – they are an imperative component of a strong, skilled and diverse early years workforce.”

“Continued development of apprentices will ensure the long-term success of the early years sector for future generations.”



Level 3 apprentice, Jessica Pullen from Kids Planet Jack Straws Lane Nursery and Preschool in Oxford says:

“I had been wanting to take a level 3 apprenticeship for a while and couldn’t find a suitable provider so when Kids Planet took over Jack Straws nursery and offered, I eagerly accepted. The nursery management was really keen and confident to further my knowledge and skills. This, in turn, gave me the support to do so.

By doing my level 3, it has enabled me to not only support the children in their learning but also made clear the reasons why this is so important. I have also been able to be a role model not only to the nursery children, but to my kids at home in achieving this success.

I plan to use this qualification to enhance my career and understanding of children’s development. At present, I shadow a colleague’s key children, but this has given me the confidence to take the next step in having my own. I also plan to study about Autism or, more broadly, SEN training. I now feel more career opportunities have opened up for me.

Kids Planet prioritise the wellbeing and development of its apprentices, promoting a healthy work/life balance and offering a competitive remuneration and benefits package.



Find out about apprenticeships at Kids Planet here:

<https://www.kidsplanettrainingacademy.co.uk/about-us/apprenticeship/>



Scan to visit
the website

The Big Ambition Survey

The Children's Commissioner launches a new campaign



In the lead up to the next General Election the Children's Commissioner for England, Dame Rachel de Souza, has launched 'The Big Ambition' survey, an opportunity for children and young people to have their say.

What is 'The Big Ambition'?

'The Big Ambition' is a survey that aims to hear from children and young people (aged 0 to 18) across England about what they think is important. The Children's Commissioner wants to ensure that the Government hears young people's opinion on what they think needs to be done to make their lives better.

Who can complete the survey?

The survey has been sent to 22,500 schools across England to reach children from 6 to 18. It has also been sent to children's homes, secure children's homes, residential special schools, hospitals, young offender institutes and hostels. Parents are encouraged to complete the survey for those who may need additional support and on behalf of younger children (under 6) to make sure the needs of all children are represented. Whilst the aim is to hear from as many children and young people as possible, the survey is voluntary and optional and it is not a test – there are no right or wrong answers.

How can the survey be completed?

There are four versions of the survey with slight adjustments for age and ability. It can be completed on a mobile phone, tablet, laptop or computer. Anyone unable to complete it online can complete a downloaded print copy at <https://www.childrenscommissioner.gov.uk/the-big-ambition>. Responses can then either be inputted by someone else, emailed or posted. The survey takes around 10 minutes to complete.

What sort of questions are in the survey?

The full survey is available to view online for anyone interested in seeing it. As well as capturing demographic information, children are asked the extent of their agreement or disagreement with a list of statements. Some examples of the statements are:

- You feel like you can make a difference to things you care about / You feel empowered to change issues that you care about.
- You have the same opportunities as other children.
- You know about good jobs for when you are older / You know about apprenticeships, university options and career paths.
- You can access good healthcare when you need it.
- You feel safe and protected in your local area.

When must the survey be completed by?

The survey closes on Friday 15th December. The data will then be analysed and the survey findings will be reported in 2024.



Find out more here:

<https://www.childrenscommissioner.gov.uk/the-big-ambition>



Scan to visit
the website

Dyslexia Awareness Week

Raising awareness of the opportunities and support available

Dyslexia is a neurological difference and can have a significant impact during education, in the workplace and in everyday life. As each person is unique, so is everyone's experience of dyslexia. It can range from mild to severe, and it can co-occur with other learning difficulties. It can run in families and is a life-long condition. It is important to remember that there are positives to thinking differently. Many dyslexic people show strengths in areas such as reasoning and in visual and creative fields.

As parents and carers of children, you will be aware of their strengths. Sometimes your child may need help in recognising these. Try to help your child to explore their different strengths and think of a range of skills and attributes that could help them to demonstrate why they might be suitable for an apprenticeship that may be of interest to them.

This could include being:

- Empathetic
- Good listener
- Problem solver
- Good communicator
- Good awareness
- Creative
- Keen interest in a particular area



These strengths can be a great way to help them explore future employment as they are transferable into the workplace.

If your child is dyslexic and considering undertaking an apprenticeship, there is lots of support available, especially on the [British Dyslexia Association website](https://www.bdadyslexia.org.uk).

While they are looking for an apprenticeship:

Visit <https://www.bdadyslexia.org.uk/advice/adults/looking-for-work> for advice on looking for work if you are dyslexic.



Scan to visit the website

Amazing Apprenticeships are working in partnership with Disability Rights UK to support individuals with a learning difficulty, disability or health condition to find out more about apprenticeships and the amazing opportunities available. Find more information and the updated 2023 Into Apprenticeships guide here: <https://amazingapprenticeships.com/disabled-support/>



Scan to visit the website

Once they are an apprentice:

In the workplace the employer has a duty to provide reasonable adjustments for any challenges caused by dyslexia while they are employed there. If they know what support would help then they could request a meeting with their apprenticeship sponsor or manager to discuss this. If you need some ideas about what reasonable adjustments may help, visit

<https://www.bdadyslexia.org.uk/advice/adults/in-the-workplace/reasonable-adjustments-in-the-workplace>



Scan to visit the website

Support during assessments can also be put in place. Find out more here: <https://www.bdadyslexia.org.uk/advice/adults/in-education/further-education-apprenticeships>



Scan to visit the website

From 2nd to 8th October 2023, The British Dyslexia Association celebrated individuals with dyslexia from all backgrounds and walks of life during Dyslexia Awareness Week, with the theme Uniquely You, which may inspire your child.

Find out more about the week here: <https://www.bdadyslexia.org.uk/support-us/awareness-events>



Scan to visit the website

Dyslexia Awareness Week

Celebrate being **Uniquely You**
#DAW23



T Level Foundation Year

Find out more about this T Level preparation year

A quick guide

The aim of the T Level Foundation Year is to prepare students to progress onto and succeed on their chosen T Level. Here's our quick guide.



What is the T Level Foundation Year?

The T Level Foundation Year is a new type of study programme, specifically designed to develop the skills, experience, knowledge and behaviours to support progression

onto, and success on, a T Level. It provides a high-quality route onto T Levels for students who would like to do a T Level, but don't feel ready to start straight after their GCSEs.

Should my child complete a T Level Foundation Year?

If your child would benefit from additional study time and preparation before starting their T Level, the T Level Foundation Year could be for them. It enables students to address barriers to accessing a T Level – for example due to prior attainment, pastoral issues or personal development needs. It is also suitable for students who need more time to develop their English and / or maths skills.

Who can complete a T Level Foundation Year?

The T Level Foundation Year is available to students aged 16 to 19 and for young people with Education, Health and Care Plans up to age 24.

Do you have to pay to do a T Level Foundation Year?

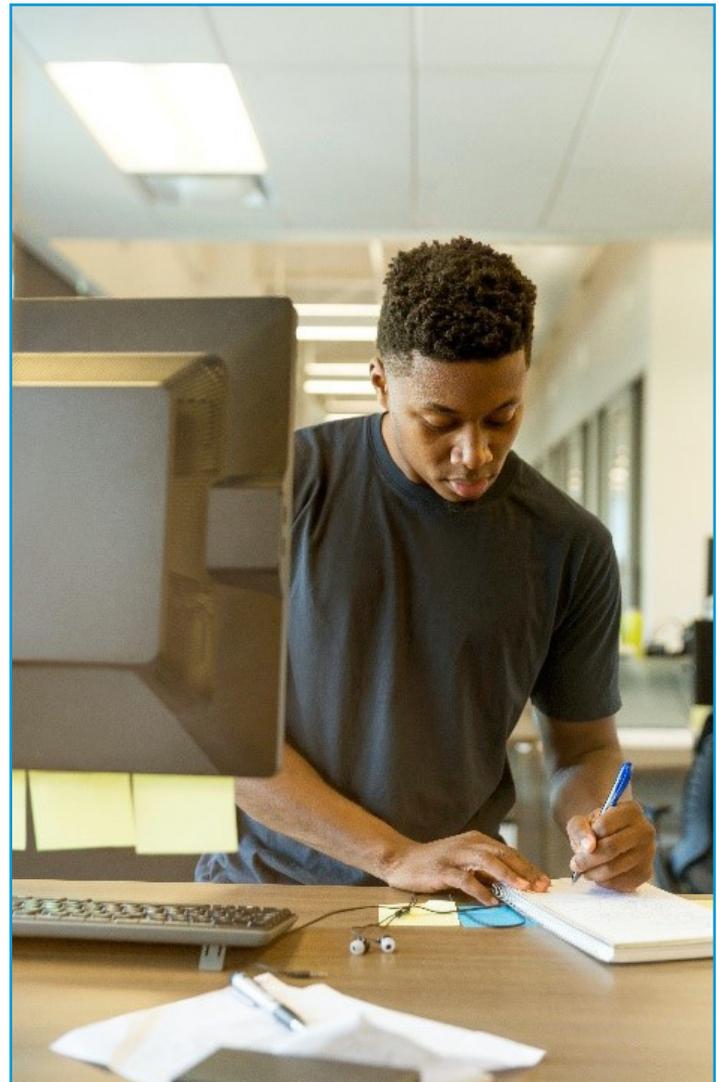
The T Level Foundation Year is free if you start when you're under the age of 19 and have not already enrolled in another type of post-16 education.

How long is the T Level Foundation Year?

The T Level Foundation Year is delivered as full or part-time study. In most instances it will be a full-time study programme lasting up to one standard academic year.

Where can I complete a T Level Foundation Year?

The T Level Foundation Year is available at schools and colleges offering T Levels across the country.



Visit this link to find a school or college offering T Levels near you:

<https://www.tlevels.gov.uk/students/find>



Scan to visit the website

Apprentice insight: Life as apprentices at Farrer & Co

Meet Keeley and Megan,
level 7 Solicitor Apprentices at Farrer & Co

FARRER & Co



Why did you choose to do an apprenticeship?

Keeley: I decided to undertake a Solicitor Apprenticeship because I wanted the ability to mould my own career and have the flexibility of working and studying whilst gaining more skills than I could imagine. I chose the apprenticeship route over university

because of the duality that the programme offers. For example, I'm able to study law, which I'm passionate about, whilst also learning about the world of work, which isn't an option available at universities, as far as I could see. It was a difficult decision to break away from the traditional path, I had to fight against other people's opinions and the stigmas surrounding apprenticeships. But an apprenticeship offered the chance to focus on two passions at the same time and this ultimately led me to choosing an apprenticeship. Additionally, the ability to be in a work environment and learn from experienced solicitors gives me the opportunity to experience professional life and gain relevant and practical experience. The work experience allows me to gain widely recognised key skills, alongside having the chance to network and build relationships in a stable and strong environment.



Megan: The apprenticeship route strongly appealed to me because of the opportunity to acquire valuable practical skills and experience in the legal environment whilst studying. Being able to establish a professional network and craft my future in an industry-leading, reputable and long-established firm had

immense appeal. After I started studying Law at A-level I developed a real interest in the subject and once I had an understanding of the career opportunities in Law I knew I wanted to pursue the solicitor route.

What is a typical week like?

Keeley: My working week is Tuesday to Friday, this is a combination of working in the office and / or working from home, this is flexible and decided by my work schedule and what works best in any given week. I spend my Mondays completing my studies at university, this consists of reading, large group sessions and tasks. I speak to my supervisor at least once a day where we discuss the work that I need to complete and how best to complete it efficiently and this is the first person I turn to if I need any help with a task or simply better understanding the instructions. The tasks I am given on a day-to-day basis vary massively, for example one day I could spend my time doing more administrative-based work, such as sending emails, setting up meetings and events, or I could spend my day attending meetings, helping with project organisation and taking minutes. The work I am given on a daily basis challenges me to step out of my comfort zone and allows me to practise new skills.

Megan: At Farrer & Co the solicitor apprenticeship is structured differently to most other London law firms in that for the first two years we sit in the business services teams. I am currently in Human Resources and work closely with the Diversity & Inclusion team. I have been working on a number of projects including the 10,000 Black Interns Programme, Mental Health Awareness Week, reviewing the firm's wellbeing policies and organising an event for London's Air Ambulance. My responsibilities include emailing, scheduling, setting up meetings, attending meetings, contributing ideas, drafting comms and supporting my supervisors in any way I can.

" I decided to undertake a Solicitor Apprenticeship because I wanted the ability to mould my own career and have the flexibility of working and studying whilst gaining more skills than I could imagine." Keeley

Apprentice insight: Life as apprentices at Farrer & Co

Meet Keeley and Megan,
level 7 Solicitor Apprentices at Farrer & Co



How did you go about finding your apprenticeship?

Megan: I first discovered Farrer & Co's Solicitor apprenticeship on the website Indeed, but I had also signed up to the University of Law's apprenticeship database, which alerted me when applications for firms opened, so I later received an email from them highlighting Farrer & Co. My A level law teacher promoted apprenticeships within law, in particular solicitor apprenticeships which is where I first heard about them. I then heavily researched them and the benefits of an apprenticeship over university. My mum supported and encouraged me throughout the process, helping me search for apprenticeships to apply for and taking me to interviews and assessment centres.

Keeley: I found my apprenticeship through my school after applying to universities via UCAS. Before this I had never heard of the opportunity to become a qualified solicitor through the apprenticeship route. My school had sent out an email describing apprenticeships and the potential benefits. Within this email there was a list of apprenticeships that were open to apply for and

"Farrer & Co Solicitor Apprenticeship" happened to be in the shortlist of apprenticeships available! It was a difficult decision to break away from the traditional path, however, my family and close friends were super supportive and were always there to lean on when I needed to.

How is your apprenticeship delivered?

Megan: The training provider for my apprenticeship is the University of Law. We have a designated study day each week, which is Monday, and we complete the learning online. There is a campus in Moorgate and Bloomsbury which we have access to.

Although the majority of the course is online, there are tutors who lead the lectures and offer support. We also have a skills coach that we meet with approximately every ten weeks with our supervisors to discuss both work and university.

Keeley: The training provider is the University of Law. I am allocated one study day a week, in which I work on tasks provided on the online learning system. The units are given out at the beginning of the new module so that we can complete any of the work in our own time and at our own pace. Each week we have a selection of reading that is to be completed alongside a large group session, which tends to mirror an in-person lecture, and finally a submitted graded task to see how we are progressing throughout the module. However, we do go to one of the many university campuses at least once a year for a summer school, this takes place at the Moorgate campus. The summer school allows us to complete an extra study day away from the office and means we can practice in-person skills which we will need to qualify.

" The apprenticeship route strongly appealed to me because of the opportunity to acquire valuable practical skills and experience in the legal environment whilst studying." Megan



To search for apprenticeship opportunities visit:
<https://www.gov.uk/apply-apprenticeship>



Scan to visit
the website

Apprentice insight: Life as apprentices at Farrer & Co

Meet Keeley and Megan,
level 7 Solicitor Apprentices at Farrer & Co

FARRER & Co

What are your goals for the future?

Keeley: A goal of mine would be to help raise awareness of the opportunities that apprenticeships have to offer and how beneficial they may be to students. Another goal of mine is to hopefully find a legal seat where I feel the most comfortable and supported so that I can go on to work and prove how determined I am.

Megan: My ultimate career goal once I qualify as a solicitor is to be a partner in the firm.

It only shows how strong, determined, and resilient you are. This is your time to share your thoughts and opinions, take the time to explain why you believe this is your “fit”.

Megan: My advice to students who are applying for apprenticeships would be to persevere and learn from every experience you have in the application stages because apprenticeships are extremely competitive. Don't give up on pursuing your goals, the right apprenticeship and company will be out there.

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

Keeley: Do it! Do what makes you happy and don't let anyone stop you. This is your chance to make your own path and start defining your career goals and be different!

“ I moved to London from Yorkshire for my apprenticeship as I could not pass up on such an amazing opportunity.” Megan

FARRER & Co

Farrer & Co is a leading London law firm who, in addition to offering solicitor apprenticeships for the first time from September 2022, also have had an established apprenticeship programme in business services apprenticeships since 2017, with apprentices currently in place within its Finance and Marketing teams.

As part of the Farrer & Co programme, solicitor apprentices rotate through the firm's essential business services teams during their first two years, mirroring the close collaboration between business and legal services teams within the firm at large, and helping aspiring solicitors develop a commercial mindset. Thereafter, solicitor apprentices will begin a four-year rotation of the legal teams, while also studying for their solicitor qualifications.

This programme complements our business services apprentices who are each recruited to join one specific team for the full duration of their apprenticeship. In addition to their academic off the job training, our business services apprentices are supported in their role through high quality supervision and personal development opportunities.



Find out more about Farrer & Co solicitor apprenticeships here:

<https://www.farrer.co.uk/join-us/train-with-us/solicitor-apprenticeships/>

Farrer & Co feature in the Department for Education's Higher and Degree Listing, which you can find here:

<https://amazingapprenticeships.com/higher-degree-listing/>



**Scan to visit
the website**



**Scan to visit
the website**

Dates for your diary

Free webinars throughout the year for teachers and parents/carers

As part of the Apprenticeship Support and Knowledge for Schools and Colleges programme (ASK), Amazing Apprenticeships are offering careers staff, teachers and parents/carers a schedule of free webinars throughout the year, to find out more about apprenticeships and how to support your child.

This series of informative webinars will provide an abundance of tips, advice and information 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 an hour before it begins. The webinars will be recorded and shared with all registrants after the session.

Book your free place and catch up on recordings of all previous webinars here:

<https://amazingapprenticeships.com/workshops-webinars/>



Scan to visit
the website

2023

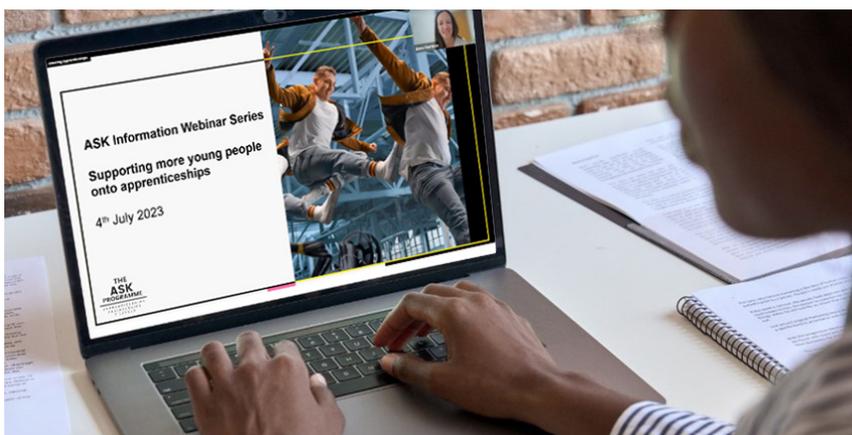
Using the levels of apprenticeships to progress your career	Thursday 16th November 2023 3:30pm	In this session, we discuss how you can progress your career using the different levels of apprenticeships and how starting as an intermediate or advanced apprentice can assist you to progress even further.
Discover T Levels – everything you need to know 	Monday 27th November 2023 3:30pm	T Levels are a level 3 technical education option for students after their GCSEs and give students a head-start towards the career they want. Join this webinar 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.
NAW 2024 – how to make the most of the resources	Thursday 14th December 2023 3:30pm	National Apprenticeship Week is coming soon and there are many free and exciting resources on offer to help you engage and inspire your students/child. Find out more by joining this webinar.

2024

Everything you need to know – Autumn term round-up	Thursday 25th January 2024 3:30pm	This termly update is the first in a series of key information webinars for teachers and careers leaders. Expert speakers from Amazing Apprenticeships and the DfE will highlight what's new in technical education and apprenticeships and will cover any recent changes in policy and funding.
How to research and apply for T Levels 	Monday 26th February 2024 3:30pm	Join this webinar to hear from different T Level training providers about their application processes, and how students can be supported to research their options so that they can be certain that they are making the right choice in selecting a T Level.
How to find and apply for apprenticeships	Thursday 29th February 2024 3:30pm	A step-by-step guide to the different vacancy platforms for apprenticeships, including Find an Apprenticeship, and tips for the application process.

2024

<p>How to impress in the application process</p>	<p>Thursday 21st March 2024 3:30pm</p>	<p>Want some top tips from current apprentices and apprentice employers? Hear directly about the best ways to impress in the apprenticeship recruitment process.</p>
<p>How to research and apply for HTQs</p> 	<p>Wednesday 24th April 2024 6:00pm</p>	<p>If your child is looking for a post-18 qualification that is flexible, job-focussed 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>Everything you need to know – Spring term round-up</p>	<p>Thursday 25th April 2024 3.30pm</p>	<p>This termly update is the second in a series of key information webinars for teachers and careers leaders. Expert speakers from Amazing Apprenticeships and the DfE will highlight what's new in technical education and apprenticeships and will cover any recent changes in policy and funding.</p>
<p>Why T Levels are a fantastic choice</p> 	<p>Thursday 16th May 2024 3:30pm</p>	<p>Join this webinar to hear directly from T Level students about their T Level journeys and why they are an excellent option.</p>
<p>Apprentice stories</p>	<p>Thursday 23rd May 2024 3:30pm</p>	<p>Hear from real life apprentices who will share their experiences of being an apprentice, how they found their vacancy, what a typical day looks like and the benefits of doing an apprenticeship.</p>
<p>How to promote and support apprenticeships and technical education in your school or college.</p>	<p>Thursday 20th June 2024 3:30pm</p>	<p>Top tips and ideas for promoting apprenticeships and technical education, and supporting students, parents, carers and staff to understand the options.</p>
<p>Everything you need to know – Summer term round-up</p>	<p>Thursday 11th July 2024 3:30pm</p>	<p>This termly update is the third in a series of key information webinars for teachers and careers leaders. Expert speakers from Amazing Apprenticeships and the DfE will highlight what's new in technical education and apprenticeships and will cover any recent changes in policy and funding.</p>



THE ASK PROGRAMME

APPRENTICESHIPS
& TECHNICAL
EDUCATION