

Apprenticeship Myth Busting

February 2021



Here's what you will gain if you apply for an apprenticeship...



A fair deal - get paid while you're getting work experience



A mix of learning on the job and studying



Recognised – you'll get a qualification that employers respect



A commitment – it'll take 1-4 years to complete

Q: Can an apprentice still achieve a degree?

- 1) No, apprentices are just for lower levels
- 2) Yes, it will part of your apprenticeship
- 3) No, because you don't get UCAS points



A: Yes!

- Apprentices can achieve a degree through a degree apprenticeship!
- A couple of years ago, the government introduced degree apprenticeships. This means that you can now study all the way up to degree level (and even master's level).
- Not all apprentices will leave school and go straight onto a degree apprenticeship. Most apprentices will need to complete an intermediate, advanced or higher apprenticeship before progressing on.



Q: Is an apprenticeship a real job?

- 1) Yes
- 2) No
- 3) Sometimes – it depends on the employer



A: Yes!

An apprenticeship is a real job - with the added benefit of training.

You are learning as you work, whilst completing more formal off-the-job training at least 20% of your time.



Q: Does an apprentice have to pay for their own training?

- 1) Yes
- 2) No
- 3) You may have to contribute some of the fees, depending on the course



A: No

Apprentices do not pay for the training.

The employer and government pay for all the training costs, meaning that you can access a fantastic range of apprenticeship standards and qualifications without incurring any student debt.

Plus, remember you'll be working at the same time, building up valuable experience in the workplace too!



Q: Will you be entitled to holiday pay as an apprentice?

- 1) Yes
- 2) No
- 3) Yes, after you have completed 6 months of your course.

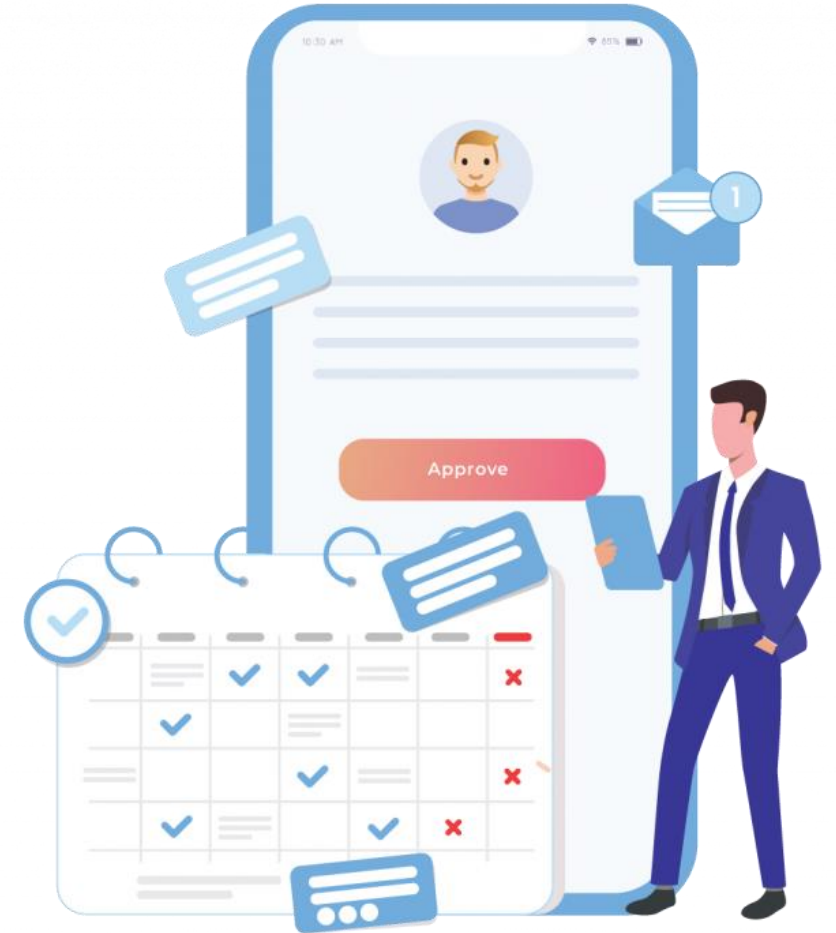


A: Yes

Apprentices have all the same rights and responsibilities as other employees within an organisation.

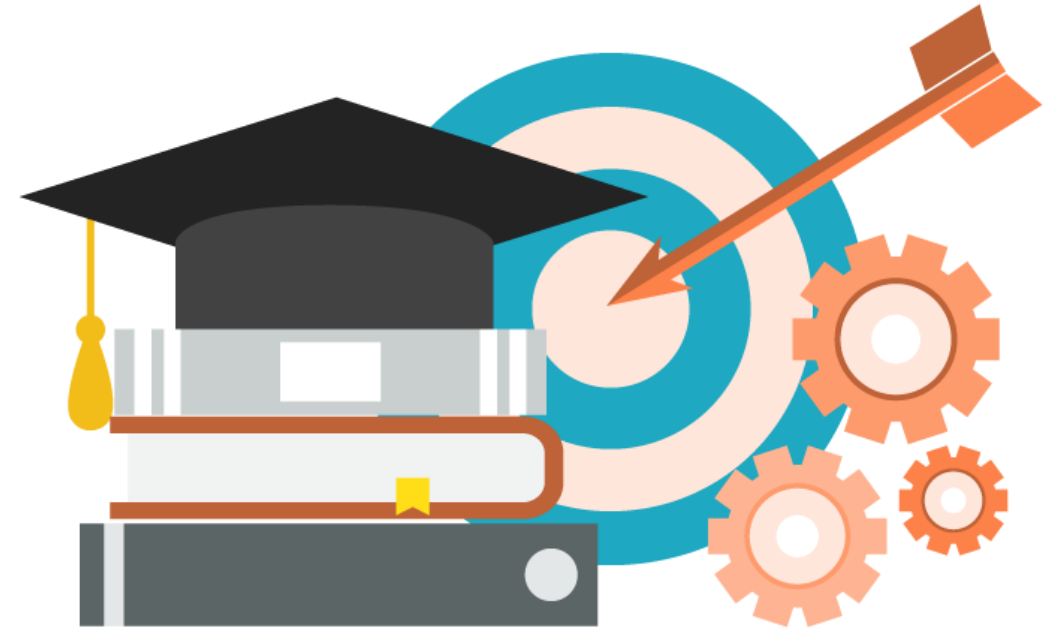
You will be legally entitled to 20 days paid holiday per year. However, if your employer gives their workers 30 days holiday a year, you would be entitled to the same! After all, you are an employee in a real job.

This goes for sick leave and flexitime procedures too.



Q: Where does most off-the-job training take place?

- 1) At the employer's premises
- 2) At one day a week at college
- 3) At a university, every 2 weeks



A: At the employer's premises

Most apprentices complete their off-the-job training at their workplace.

However, the training element comes in many forms and will depend on the course and what works best for you and your employer.

So, it could be day release, in the workplace, block release or a mixture.

You do get paid for this time away from your day-to-day job too!



Q: Apprentices are only for young people aged 16-18?

True or False



A: False

Not true!

Apprenticeships are open to all people 16+ that want to learn new skills as part of a real job - it doesn't matter how old you are.

In 2016, 39% of all people that started an apprenticeship were over the age of 24, some were even in their 60's!



Q: Which is the fastest growing group of apprenticeships in England?

- 1) Intermediate Apprenticeships (GCSE-Level)
- 2) Advanced Apprenticeships (A-Level standard)
- 3) Higher & Degree Apprenticeships (University-level)



A: Higher and Degree Apprenticeships

Higher and degree-apprenticeships are the fastest growing of any kind of apprenticeship, with almost 65% more starts in 2016/17 than the previous academic year.

This shows there are more and more opportunities to progress through the apprenticeship route or jump straight in at a higher level.



Q: What is the average salary for an apprentice studying an intermediate (level 2) or advanced (level 3) apprenticeship?

- 1) £7,215 per year
- 2) £12,890 per year
- 3) £13,065 per year



A: It's £13,065 per year!

There is a national minimum wage for apprentices, although many employers pay more than this.

Don't forget that you won't be paying for any of your qualification or training costs either.

The minimum wage for apprentices aged under 19 is currently £4.15 per hour.



Q: Most apprenticeships are in hairdressing or construction?



True or False



A: False

It's not true!

The three biggest areas in 2017 were Business, Health and Engineering.

Plus, new apprenticeships are coming along all the time, such as:

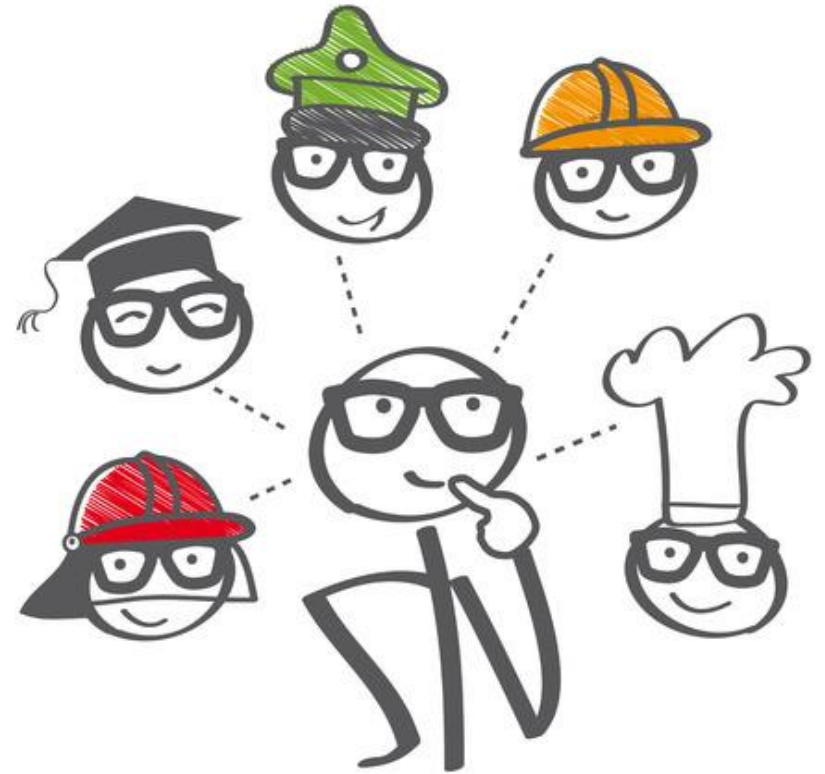
- Aerospace Engineer
- Cyber Security Technologist
- Nuclear Scientist
- Nurse
- Solicitor
- Teacher

And many, many more! Make sure you check out your options.



Q: Who is more likely to have a job six months after completing their studies?

- 1) A Graduate
- 2) An Apprentice



A: An Apprentice

Research shows that 91% of apprentices are in work on completion of their apprenticeship compared to 74% of graduates.

Not only that, but roughly nine in ten apprentices are satisfied with their apprenticeship and 80% feel that their employer is actively supporting their career development.



Why should you choose an apprenticeship?

