

## Apprenticeships

### Frequently asked Q&A

**I know what I want to do, what do I do now?** Go to the apprenticeship website. Start to look for vacancies within the subject area and within relevant distance to your location, you cannot start an apprenticeship until you have left school at the end of year 11 at the earliest! Have a plan B for example full time further education colleges can offer you the subject with knowledge based qualifications, apprenticeships offer work based qualifications. <https://www.apprenticeships.gov.uk/>

**I can't make my mind up what to do** What do you enjoy doing, what are your hobbies, what have been your favorite subjects? Look at your local college websites they have open days where you can go in and ask questions. Lecturers there will have worked in a range of industries they can give you great advice.

**How do I know what level to go on?** This will be subject specific, some vocational areas allow you to start at level 3 and you must meet the entry requirements to be able to enroll at level 3. Some subject areas such as hair & beauty insist you start at level 2 this is because you need the basics before progressing to an advanced level. Some subject areas such as accounting and child care have Higher level apprenticeships level 4 and level 5, see the table below for the equivalents.

Level	Equivalent	Apprenticeship
1	Pre GCSE	None
2	GCSE	Intermediate
3	A level	Advanced
4	Foundation degree	Higher
5	Year 2 of a BA or BSC	Higher
6	Year 3 of a BA or BSC	None
7	Masters	None

**Where would I go to College?** Most employers choose the college where you will either study or the college will come to you at work, if you have a preference you must tell your employer.

**What is the apprenticeship wage?** Dec 2019 £3.90 per hour 16-19 year olds, if you are 19 and get to your second year of an apprenticeship you have to be paid the national minimum wage from your second year.

**How many hours per week do I have to do?** A minimum of 30 hours per week, your training is part of your hours not an addition. At least 20 paid days' holiday per year + bank holidays

**I'm not ready for work, what do I do?** Stay at school complete A levels or go to a further education college, study a subject for a year, transfer to an apprenticeship for your second year when you feel you are ready for work. Remember when you get to 19 your employer will have to pay for your training!