10/24

ISSUE 2

CHOICES

The monthly parent & carer guide to apprenticeships and technical education

WHAT YOU CAN EXPECT FROM AN APPRENTICE LINE MANAGER

CELEBRATING THE ACHIEVEMENTS OF CARE EXPERIENCED APPRENTICES #NCLW

T LEVEL STUDENT INSIGHT: YOUNG PEOPLE TAKING THEIR CAREERS TO THE NEXT LEVEL

LOVE HISTORY? CHECK OUT THE APPRENTICESHIPS FOR YOU!

DISCOVER THOUSANDS OF HIGHER & DEGREE APPRENTICESHIPS

Take a look at who is recruiting, what they're paying and where the vacancies are based!

Amazing Apprenticeships

THE CAREERS & ENTERPRISE COMPANY

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THE ROLE OF THE APPRENTICE LINE MANAGER

Have you ever heard the proverb, 'It takes a village to raise a child'? Well, the same is true for apprenticeships – starting with the line manager.

All apprentices will be employed and will also have a line manager. The line manager is responsible for the day-to-day activities of the apprentice, ensuring that they are learning new skills and developing in their role. Their line manager will be there to provide guidance, training, support, feedback and encouragement as they start to learn new skills and take on greater responsibilities.

The line manager will also be a crucial connection between the workplace and the apprenticeship training provider. They will liaise with the apprenticeship assessor allocated to the apprentice, ensuring that they are making sufficient progress in their off-the-job learning, as well as overseeing their coursework and establishing the direct connection between what the apprentice is studying, and the work they are undertaking in the workplace.

A great line manager will arrange regular opportunities to check in with the apprentice through 1:1 meetings. This could sometimes be informal conversations about progress and work more generally. But they could also be formal review meetings, which will sometimes include the training provider too.

"A great line manager will arrange regular opportunities to check in with the apprentice"

It is vital that your child is aware of the importance of the relationship with their line manager, and makes every effort to share how they are feeling at each stage of the programme. Their line manager will want the apprenticeship to be a success and they need to be aware of any concerns that your child may have, but also which elements of the job your child is really enjoying too.

The line manager will help the apprentice to understand their job role fully, and to see how their role fits into the wider organisation. They will also help them to prepare for End Point Assessment towards the end of the apprenticeship, encouraging them to reflect upon and remember all of the different work activities that have been undertaken throughout the apprenticeship.

The line manager is there to support the apprentice at every stage of the apprenticeship and they will want to work with the apprentice, and the training provider, to ensure that it is successful.

As well as the line manager, the apprentice may also be allocated a workplace mentor or buddy. This person is usually a colleague that the apprentice can talk to in confidence about their apprenticeship and the way that the workplace operates more generally. If the apprentice has any concerns, the mentor/buddy will be able to make suggestions about how to address the issue.

In addition to the line manager and mentor/buddy, the apprentice will also be surrounded by colleagues in their immediate and adjacent teams, all of whom will be pleased to give their time and expertise in helping your child to develop in their role. Many of their colleagues may have also started their careers as apprentices and will remember how crucial it is to be given the space to learn, develop new skills and make mistakes as an apprentice. No-one is expected to start an apprenticeship knowing how to perform that role - the real benefit is that they can learn the role as they build and develop their skills.

"As well as the line manager, the apprentice may also be allocated a mentor or buddy"

ASK THE EXPERT: NICOLA DRURY

HEAD OF SKILLS AND APPRENTICESHIPS, AMAZON

A great line manager can make all the difference in helping your child succeed. Their line manager should understand your child as an individual, taking the time to get to know them and agree on clear goals and expectations together. Importantly, the manager should familiarize themselves with the apprenticeship curriculum, aligning relevant projects with your child's learning objectives to give them the exposure needed to develop required skills.

Constant, constructive feedback is crucial. The manager should over-communicate, ensuring your child always knows where they stand, and how to improve. Building trust is key, with the manager involving your child and giving them opportunities to learn and grow. Remember, the manager sets the platform, but your child drives their own advancement.

With the right, supportive, line manager and apprentice relationship, I'm confident your child can truly thrive. This guidance and mentorship can make all the difference in setting them up for long-term success..

"Constant, constructive feedback is crucial. The manager should over-communicate, ensuring your child always knows where they stand , and how to improve."

MY APPRENTICESHIP CHANGED MY LIFE

Former apprentice Shannon shares her story.

Meet Shannon-Kia, who completed an apprenticeship in level 3 Youth Work with North Yorkshire Council.

How did you find out about your apprenticeship?

I found out about it through the service I was working for. I was working in the Restorative Practice team and they had a couple of apprenticeships pop up. My manager suggested I try interviewing for one and I went for it, but I didn't think I'd actually get it, if I'm being honest. I just thought I'd do it for the interview experience. Then I got a phone call the next day telling me that I'd actually got it!

Did you get any support to apply for your apprenticeship or to prep for the interview?

The apprenticeship I was going for was in Youth Work, but it was still within the area of work I'd been doing, so my colleagues knew I already had lots of relevant experience.

I did have a couple of meetings with another manager who supported me with what to write down and how to make me sound the best I could.

How old were you when you started your apprenticeship?

I was 21 when I started my apprenticeship, and I was still receiving support from the leaving care team.

Tell us a bit about your apprenticeship

I was mostly working with 11 to 18-year-olds who were going through some form of exploitation. They'd often lived in really challenging home environments, and they just needed that extra bit of support. There was one young person I would always help with school because she couldn't voice to the school how she actually felt, and in turn, was getting in loads of trouble because she couldn't tell them what was wrong. I'd support the young people I worked with on many different things. It was just dependent on each teenager or child's needs.

> "The manager I had when I got my apprenticeship was not taking no for an answer! She knew I could do it and really supported me."

How did you find managing your day-to-day work and your apprenticeship work?

At first it was really tricky, because I went from the zero-hour contract to full time, so it jumped quite drastically. I went from doing a separate college course and occasionally working on the days I was free to work, to working every single day. I did think, what have I gotten myself into? Can I actually do this? And there were a couple of points where I started stressing, thinking I can't. But luckily the manager I had when I got my apprenticeship was not taking no for an answer! She knew I could do it and really supported me.

How did doing an apprenticeship make a difference to your life?

Financially it made a massive difference. At the council, I was paid the full salary for the role I was doing, not an apprentice salary. So I went from earning £20 a month in my first month of working in the Restorative Practice team, to just short of £1,500 each month. I went from having absolutely nothing, and not being able to do anything (for example I couldn't learn to drive at that point because I physically couldn't afford it) to being able to book five lessons in one go! It helped me become an adult, is how I'm going to describe it. It made me understand the value of money.

"IT MADE ME UNDERSTAND THE RATIONALE BEHIND WHY I WAS DOING WHAT I WAS DOING."

Did you find it easy to manage your finances?

I started to understand how to budget everything for the month, with how and when I spent my money. Having a proper wage gave me the freedom to start making some choices. With leaving care, I did get support with some of my driving lessons, which did make it a little bit easier, but it took a long time to be able to get the funding to pay my driving instructor. He said I could pay him once I got the money, but I didn't know how long that was going to be, and I didn't want to end up owing more money than I was going to be getting. The Leaving Care Team also helped pay for my driving test. The deal was I paid for my own theory test and the team helped with lessons and booking the driving test. They ended up paying for both my driving tests because I failed the first one!

How was it working for the same council as the Leaving Care team who supported you?

It worked out well and it also made it easier to contact my Leaving Care worker. Sometimes I'd panic about contacting her about something, but because I could email her through my work email, it felt easier somehow.

What skills did your apprenticeship give you?

Time management was the biggest one. We had all the apprenticeship assignments that had to be in at set times, and then I had to work full time alongside it. It made me think 'Shannon, you can't faff about with this, you've got to get that done now, you've got to get this done tomorrow!'. It made sure that I could actually get everything done on time.

It also made me consider how in-depth I needed to be with my work. Beforehand, I don't think I was doing it in as in-depth a way as I could have done. It made me understand the rationale behind why I was doing what I was doing.

I also developed my teamwork skills. Before I was solo working, and I'd only speak to my manager about once a week to do a check in and a supervision. On the apprenticeship, we had to do group projects, so we had to coordinate with each other and make sure we actually spoke and got any help that we needed.

It also helped me get into a proper daily routine. When you're on part-time work or barely any work, it doesn't matter if you wake up late, you aren't needed anywhere. Whereas on the apprenticeship, I needed to start work at nine o'clock every day.

MENTOR SUPPORT

I was able to go to my mentor and say I'm struggling and I need some support. She'd sit down and figure out why I felt like I was struggling and how she could support me into feeling like I could do it, with no judgment.

How did your employer support your off-the-job learning time?

My manager made sure I had one set day a week and she said if I could fit things in at other times, that was fine too. She made sure that I was doing my coursework on that day and not avoiding it! It was only if it was a dire circumstance where I needed to go see a young person that she broke and let me move it, but she always ensured I made up the time on another day.

What did you love about your apprenticeship?

I loved that I got to learn more about youth work, while still providing youth work. I got to improve my practice as I was going. I also liked that there was a lot of self-reflection. In our apprenticeship work, our tutor really encouraged us to go back to things, think about what we'd done and what we could improve, to make sure that we could provide the best support.

Did you have a mentor during your apprenticeship?

I did and she was absolutely amazing. I could go to her with anything I was panicked over and not feel scared to tell her that I was struggling. Sometimes I didn't want to let my manager know I was struggling with something because I didn't want to let her down, even though she was brilliant and supported me wholeheartedly. I was able to go to my mentor and say I'm struggling and I need some support. She'd sit down and figure out why I felt like I was struggling and how she could support me into feeling like I could do it, with no judgment.

Nicki, Shannon's mentor

Did you claim the bursary you were entitled to as a care experienced apprentice?

Yes, I did. Our tutor was adamant I did because I was entitled to it and really encouraged me to get it sorted. The bursary made it possible for me to start learning to drive. I asked what we were allowed to use it for, and she said whatever I needed that was going to help me progress further. I really needed to learn to drive because I was going all over the place for my work, and I was getting trains everywhere and facing lots of problems with cancelled or delayed trains. I was really focused on getting my license, because then I could just get in my car and get where I needed to be for work.

Did you get any other support from the Leaving Care team?

I got a Chromebook from Leaving Care, which really helped with all my coursework. It was really tricky using my work laptop for apprenticeship work, because it showed on the system that I was active, and people were asking why I was online. It looked like I was working a lot more hours than I was too.

They also supported me with furnishing my flat. That was obviously a separate thing from the apprenticeship, but without all that support, I would have been stuck. I would have had the flat, I just wouldn't have had anything in the flat.

What are you doing now?

Getting my level three Youth Work apprenticeship meant I could then go into a slightly different career path. I'm still working alongside teenagers and children, but I'm now in more social work areas, so I'm now a Children and Family Support Worker.

If you were to sum up your apprenticeship experience, what would you say?

It's supported me with everything. If I hadn't done the apprenticeship, I wouldn't have gone into the career I've gone into, because I wouldn't have had any form of training to do so. I would probably still be in my zero-hour contract, not really earning very much. If I hadn't have done the apprenticeship, I would not be anywhere near where I am now – it's been brilliant. I would recommend doing an apprenticeship to basically everyone! It opened so many doors career wise, and in my personal life too.

NATIONAL CARE LEAVERS WEEK 2024

#NCLW

This year, National Care Leavers Week runs from **Monday 28th October to Sunday 3rd November 2024**.

The Alliance for Children in Care & Care Leavers has worked with care experienced individuals from across the country, to share ideas, collaborate, and coordinate activities for this year's National Care Leavers Week.

National Care Leavers Week exists for the public, professionals, carers, decision-makers and the media to come together to **CARE**:
Celebrate: care leavers/care experienced individuals.
Amplify: their voices.
Raise: awareness of challenges.
Encourage: change in policy and practice.

This year, the theme is **"All of Us, We are One"**, which was selected by care experienced individuals through workshops and a vote.

> I picked "All of Us, We are One" as when I am with other care leavers I really do feel the most understood. I really do feel like we are one.

During the week there will be national and local events, campaigns and activities, which will be shared by the members of the Alliance for Children in Care & Care Leavers.

Find out more here: leavingcare.org/national-care-leavers-week-nclw-theme-all-of-us-we-are-one

APPRENTICE INSIGHT

Meet former Community Activator Coach apprentice Billy, hear about his apprentice experience and where it led him.

What were you doing before your apprenticeship?

Before starting my apprenticeship with Coach Core, I had a long period of unemployment due to my health and a diagnosis of fibromyalgia, along with supporting my family. I also campaigned with the National Fibromyalgia Campaign team to Parliament for better awareness, recognition, education and treatment pathways. After changing the way I managed my health from long-term medication to a more holistic self-management approach, which involved being more active as a fundamental part of my day-to-day management, I started volunteering as a Disability & Inclusion Sport Essex All Together Ambassador with Active Essex and came across the Coach Core Apprenticeship opportunity.

What would you have been doing if you hadn't joined the Coach Core apprenticeship programme?

Without joining the programme I would have lacked huge confidence in myself and would have most likely remained unemployed due to my health, while continuing to volunteer as an Essex All Together Ambassador due to the positive impact being involved in sport and activity had on me. The programme was the stepping stone I needed to get back into working and most importantly, it really ignited my passion for sport and activity and the power that it has to impact lives positively, which I experienced first-hand through the programme. Without the programme I feel I wouldn't have engaged in most of what I have during and after, as it was the programme that impacted on my journey and pathway back into work.

What did your day-to-day role involve whilst you were on the apprenticeship?

During my apprenticeship my day-to-day role was never truly the same and involved many different experiences. My apprenticeship linked me with Active Essex, which exposed me to various positive experiences across the county and beyond. For example, one day I was supporting the School Games events, the next day I was working on projects collecting case studies to showcase the positive impact of sport and activity in the lives of others. On the programme my day-to-day work involved a series of opportunities, from education to delivering activity, to meeting high profile officials, to supporting sport and activity events across the county.

What did you enjoy most about the apprenticeship?

What I enjoyed most about the apprenticeship is that the programme gave me so many opportunities to experience the power of sport and activity in the community and beyond.

"Be open to wider experiences and take on any additional opportunities that are given, as they may well give you an experience of a lifetime, just like I had."

I also enjoyed the opportunities I was given to engage in international events, such as the Cricket World Cup 2019 ICC Volunteers. I was given this opportunity and excelled through it. The experience created memories for life and gave me one of the proudest moments of my life - captaining the England Flag Team in a monumental Cricket World Cup final! I was able to experience this due to the programme linking me with the ICC Cricketeers Programme and supporting with my travel costs to and from the event.

What skills and behaviours did you gain on the apprenticeship?

The apprenticeship helped me develop a multitude of skills, ranging from IT skills to multi-tasking, working on my own initiative to working in a team. It helped me develop my interpersonal skills and how to tailor my communication appropriately for different people. It helped me become a better role model and gave me the confidence to deliver and support the delivery of many activities/sports for various ages and abilities, in different settings of the community and across a scale of different types of events.

What are you doing now?

I am currently working as a Stroke Rehabilitation Assistant. When I finished my apprenticeship, I was unable to find a job in the sport sector due to the Covid pandemic, so my pathway altered into working in Health and Social Care. With help from The Prince's Trust Get Into Programme, I was able to transfer my skills and apply them to working in Health and Social Care. I started out as a Healthcare Assistant and after a year, I started working as a Bank Rehabilitation Assistant. I am now in a secondment after two years in this role. A highlight of my role is that I am running seated exercise groups in our rehab gym for our stroke patients. I am actively using the skills I learned on my Coach Core Apprenticeship as I have managed to apply the same sport (boccia) that was part of my apprenticeship End Point Assessment! I am delivering a variation of this in the community and in my current workplace, as a progressional session to improve physical and mental health in a group setting and to give patients an opportunity to engage in rehabilitation in a fun, social and engaging way.

What advice would you give to another young person considering this route?

The advice I would give to a young person considering this pathway is to absolutely give it a chance.

Most importantly, be open to wider experiences and take on any additional opportunities that are given, as they may well give you an experience of a lifetime, just like I had. I would also assure young people that whatever your situation, this should not be a barrier to you engaging in this sector, but communication is key so please do not be afraid to communicate any barriers you are facing.

LEARN MORE

Coach Core is a national social mobility charity, using sport and apprenticeships to support young adults not in employment, education or training. Working alongside their training provider and a network of employer partners, they deliver the Level 2 Community Activator Coach qualification, and in some areas, the Level 3 Community Sport and Health Officer too.

If your child has been inspired to look into apprenticeships in sport, visit the Coach Core website: coachcore.org.uk for more information.

ASK THE EXPERT: ALLISON HINDS

OUTREACH SCHEMES SPECIALIST, EARLY CAREERS, BBC ACADEMY

What makes the BBC a great employer?

We are a leading early careers employer and hire more than 250 apprentices each year. We are committed to skills and talent development both inside and outside the BBC and, as one of the world's most creative and technologically-advanced organisations for the last 100 years, a career at the BBC means learning from the best.

Who can work at the BBC?

The BBC is for everyone, and should include everyone. Diversity and Inclusion is hardwired into everything that we do. To ensure our content is inclusive and representative of all groups and communities, we must build teams that draw on the widest range of experiences, talent and ideas - reflecting both modern Britain and the world.

Which apprenticeships do you offer?

At the BBC you can complete an early careers scheme in one of five broad areas:

- Business
- Digital, Data and Technology
- Engineering and Operations
- Journalism
- Production

Which levels do you offer?

Our apprenticeships range from level 3 (advanced) up to level 6 (degree level).

What is the application process?

The stages of our application process are customised by role and you'll be given more information when you apply. You might expect the following:

- Online application
- Online tests
- Video interview
- Assessment Centres

When do you advertise?

Our next recruitment round is due to open at the end of October, ready for apprentices to start in September 2025. Follow us on Instagram and X @BBCGetIn to get the latest updates.

How can I find out more?

Amazing Apprenticeships will be hosting an exclusive webinar with the BBC on Tuesday 22nd October at 15:30.

Sign up to hear directly from the BBC Early Careers team about the forthcoming apprenticeship recruitment round and what to expect from the application process.

amazingapprenticeships.com/workshops-webinars

Find out more about Early Careers with the BBC by visiting: careers.bbc.co.uk

EMPLOYER WEBINARS LIVE

SCAN

Book to attend by scanning the QR code or visiting: amazingapprenticeships.com/workshops-webinars

British Army **16 October 6PM**

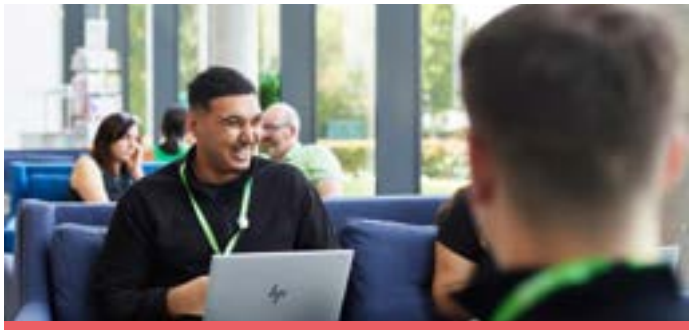
Parents and carers are invited to discover apprenticeship opportunities in various fields like engineering, HR, and more. Hear directly from Army apprentices and staff about the support available for new recruits.

Coca-Cola **12 November 3.30PM**

Coca-Cola Europacific Partners create drinks brands that are loved all across the globe. Join this webinar to hear about the fantastic Engineering apprenticeship opportunities recruiting this November to start in September 2025.

EDF **26 November 4PM**

Join EDF's Early Careers team to learn about their apprenticeship opportunities (vacancies open in December) ranging from Nuclear Engineering to Cyber Security. Students, teachers, and parents are invited to learn how EDF programs can help build a green career and contribute to a sustainable energy future.



Dunelm **3 December 4PM**

Join this exclusive webinar to hear from the Early Careers team at Dunelm, and learn more about their amazing apprenticeship opportunities and the exciting range of vacancies opening for applications in January 2025. With apprenticeships available across the business, hear more about the exciting career opportunities available.

TAKING THEIR CAREERS TO THE NEXT LEVEL

T Levels are an alternative to A-levels, apprenticeships and other age 16 to 19 courses. Equivalent in size to 3 A-levels, a T Level focuses on vocational skills and can help students into skilled employment, higher study or apprenticeships. Each T Level includes an in-depth industry placement that lasts at least 45 days. Students get valuable experience in the workplace and employers get early sight of the new talent in their industry.

Hear from five T Level students who finished their T Levels in 2024. They share insights into their experience, what they're doing now and how industry placements are a great career progression opportunity.

Name: **Nylah**
T Level: **Construction**
Current position: **Berkeley Group Apprentice**

Why did you choose to do a T Level?

I chose a T Level because I originally wanted to pursue a career in architecture, but I didn't want to go through the route of having to study maths and art at A-level. When I was looking into studying at La Retraite School, I came across their T Levels page and saw they offered a T Level in Construction. Though unfamiliar with T Levels at the time, my parents encouraged me to give it a try.

> After completing my apprenticeship in Construction, Design & Build, my ambition is to advance to the role of Design Manager.

What were the highlights from your industry placement?

Meeting supportive colleagues, participating in site visits, witnessing project progress, and integrating new knowledge into my coursework were standout experiences.

How did your T Level lead to your current role?

An industry placement is part of your T Level course, and I was able to get a placement with a great company where I had the opportunity to be shortlisted for their Technical Apprenticeship programme. I was invited down to an assessment centre with other candidates, and luckily, I was offered the role.

How well do you think the T Level prepared you for your apprenticeship?

I think the T Level prepared me really well. The placement I completed helped me gain some experience and knowledge of what working life in construction is really like. I got to incorporate some of the knowledge I gained from my placements into my coursework and assessments. I found out about the apprenticeship route because of my T Level, and that's something I am very grateful for.

Would you recommend doing a T Level to someone who wants to go on to an apprenticeship?

Absolutely. I think a T Level offers a balanced approach, providing industry connections, mentorship, and professional insights crucial for succeeding in an apprenticeship.

T-LEVELS
THE NEXT LEVEL QUALIFICATION

If you want a practical job to go with your college-based learning, then a T Level is great.

Name: **Sydney**
T Level: **Construction**
Current position: **Degree Apprentice with Gallagher Group**

Why did you choose to do a T Level?
I always knew from a young age that I wanted to work in the construction industry. Studying a T Level gave me the qualifications, experience and ability to learn on the spot, and I felt like that would be more than I would get taking A-levels or going into full-time work.

What were the highlights from your industry placement?
My industry placement employer went above and beyond to ensure I got value from what I was doing and could develop my knowledge. It gave me skills I didn't know I needed and opened my eyes to the different routes I can take in my career.

How did your T Level lead to your current role?
After my official placement ended, my employer kept me on and increased my hours. They have now offered me a degree apprenticeship which I started in September.

Why do you think industry experience is important?
It enabled me to apply the theory I had learned in the classroom to real-life scenarios, which helped to grow my understanding. I loved experiencing different projects and understanding more of the process.

I hope to teach abroad in the future, and possibly become a deputy head teacher.

Name: **Finola**
T Level: **Education and Early Years**
Current position: **Studying primary teaching at university**

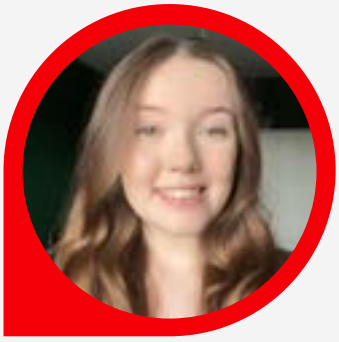
Why did you choose to do a T Level qualification?
After GCSEs I did the first year of A-levels. I passed the first year, but knew they weren't the right choice for me, so I decided to go for something suited to my interests. I didn't like the constant tests and expectations for A-levels, but I still wanted something that could lead me to university.

What were the highlights from your industry placement?
My industry placement helped me improve my confidence and being in the same class every day helped with social interactions. It also really helped talking to others in this profession.

What has been your favourite moment of the course so far?
Covering all the age ranges from 0 to 19 and the ability to go into mainstream and SEND schools.

Do you have a dream job or any personal work ambition?
I hope to teach abroad in the future and possibly specialise in a particular area or become a deputy head teacher.

Why do you think industry experience is important?
It gives you an insight into the profession and confirms if it is right for you.



> The industry placement was the main inspiration for my decision to take T Level Education and Childcare.

Name: Emma
T Level: Education and Early Years
Current position: Studying Sociology at university

Did your T Level open up opportunities you didn't think you'd be able to pursue?
In completing part of my placement in a nursery, I was offered the opportunity to be employed as bank staff over the summer period.

What inspired you to take a T Level instead of another option or work?
The industry placement was the main inspiration for my decision to take T level Education and Childcare. It was an amazing opportunity to gain a large amount of work experience alongside my education, which employers would see as valuable. I also felt it would make it easier to transition directly into work now or in the future. In addition, the opportunity to focus solely on the sector I want to work in appealed to me as I felt I could explore my passion fully and give it my undivided attention.

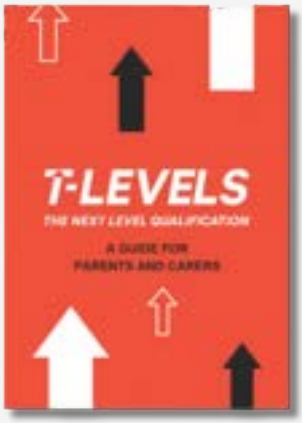
What has been your favourite moment of the course so far?
On my placement I felt so grateful to be working with the children and staff. There were days with breakthroughs with a child's learning or skills that brought me so much joy and days when a child would say how much they appreciated me, which made me feel so proud of what I have accomplished.
Other favourite moments included ones on the course when as a group we would go on trips or had a group task in our lessons that allowed us to have fun and be creative with our learning.

What would you say to someone considering a T Level? Would you recommend it?
If you know you want to work in this sector, it is the best course to do as it will give you invaluable experience and knowledge you can take directly into work after the course, or with you into higher education.

DISCOVER T LEVELS

Discover the world of T Levels and learn more about the options available to your child. Access the free Parent and Carer to T Levels by clicking below:

Find out more about T Levels here:
amazingapprenticeships.com/t-levels



HISTORY APPRENTICESHIPS UNCOVERED

Apprenticeships are continually created and released through The Institute for Apprenticeships and Technical Education (IfATE). If your child enjoys studying history at school or college, one of the apprenticeships below may be of interest to them.

You can find these apprenticeship standards and hundreds more on The Institute website: instituteforapprenticeships.org/apprenticeship-standards

Archivist and records manager	An archivist and records manager manages and develops archive collections and organises the processes of archive locations. In this role the apprentice researches and implements new technologies and practices to ensure that records are maintained.	Level 7
Archaeological technician	An archaeological technician has the role of supporting archaeological investigations. Apprentices may complete surveys, excavations, and analysis of archaeological materials and data. In this role, apprentices also catalogue and report data.	Level 3
Cultural heritage conservator	The role of a cultural heritage conservator is to preserve objects that are typically displayed in archives, art galleries, museums, libraries and private collections. They carry out tasks such as cleaning, storage and packing of objects, and environmental monitoring.	Level 7
Heritage engineering technician	A heritage engineering technician preserves, restores, and repairs historic vehicles and machinery. The apprentice researches the unique artefact and assesses if the artefact is repairable. Some artefacts may require the apprentice to solve complex and unusual engineering issues.	Level 3
Library, information & archive services assistant	The role of this apprentice is to support the users of libraries and archives in finding the information and resources they need. A library, information & archive services assistant organises and manages content, collections, and displays to enhance user interest.	Level 3
Museums and galleries technician	Apprentices create permanent and temporary exhibitions and displays in museums while assessing visitors' security, health and safety. Museums and galleries technicians also document objects using processes and systems, and complete risk assessments.	Level 3

THE JOURNEY TO MY APPRENTICESHIP

TICA

Follow Jenna's journey to becoming a thermal insulation apprentice

The Thermal Insulation Contractors Association (TICA) is hoping to inspire more women to join the industry by highlighting the experience of apprentice **Jenna**, who discovered her thermal insulation apprenticeship whilst working with Altrad at the Prax Lindsey Oil Refinery, near Grimsby, North Lincolnshire.

Her TICA apprenticeship involves a combination of practical on-site work with Altrad, as well as developing skills and best practice at TICA's national training centre for block periods of two weeks as she works towards gaining the nationally recognised qualifications.

What did you do before you started your apprenticeship?

I left school at 16 and worked in a series of office jobs, which weren't that inspiring. I then became a cleaner at Altrad's refinery site office.

How did you become a TICA apprentice?

I'd always wanted to do something fulfilling and my colleagues kept telling me to apply for an operator's job, but the thermal insulation apprenticeship came up and I decided to apply. Thermal insulation and the construction industry wasn't something I'd considered, but this apprenticeship offers a clear pathway to a fulfilling and well-paid career.

What do you do in your apprenticeship?

I'm learning to handle different insulation materials and to cut and shape them to fit pipework and ducting. I've always enjoyed crafting and the skills required are similar!

What is it like being a woman in this industry?

It may be a male-dominated industry, but I've not experienced any discrimination and there's no task I haven't been able to do because I'm a woman. I'd advise anyone, whatever gender or background, to consider it.

> *Thermal insulation wasn't something I'd considered, but this apprenticeship offers a clear pathway to a fulfilling and well-paid careeer*

What do you want to do now you've completed your level 2 apprenticeship?

I am planning to return to TICA and do a level 3 apprenticeship so I can keep progressing and developing my career.

Marion Marsland, Chief Executive of TICA, said the trade association is currently examining ways of encouraging more women to join the thermal insulation sector. She said: "Women haven't always seen construction as something for them because of a perception that it involves heavy, manual work, which isn't the case. We do have a few female apprentices, but I hope Jenna's experience can encourage and inspire more women to break down those invisible barriers."

Find out more about apprenticeships with TICA by visiting:
tica-acad.co.uk/training

DYSLEXIA AWARENESS WEEK 7 - 13 OCTOBER

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 differences. It can run in families and is a lifelong 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.

While they are looking for an apprenticeship:

Visit: bdadyslexia.org.uk/advice/adults/looking-for-work for advice on looking for work if your child is dyslexic.

Once they are an apprentice:

In the workplace, the employer has a duty to provide reasonable adjustments for any challenges caused by dyslexia. If your child knows what support would help then they could request a meeting with their apprenticeship training provider or line manager to discuss this. If you need some ideas about what reasonable adjustments may help, visit: bdadyslexia.org.uk/advice/adults/in-the-workplace/reasonable-adjustments-in-the-workplace

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

Dyslexia Awareness Week 2024 took place from 7th to 13th October 2024. The British Dyslexia Association celebrated individuals with dyslexia from all backgrounds and walks of life during Dyslexia Awareness Week. The theme was What's Your Story?, with the aim of showcasing the diversity of the dyslexic community and that everyone's experience of dyslexia is unique. Find out more about the week here: bdadyslexia.org.uk/support-us/awareness-events

If your child is dyslexic and considering an apprenticeship, there is lots of support available through the British Dyslexia Association.

THE BLACK APPRENTICE NETWORK + AMAZING APPRENTICESHIPS

October is Black History Month, an annual celebration and commemoration of moments in history, achievements and contributions that Black people have made.

The Black Apprentice Network (BAN) was set up in October 2022 by Elijah Olanipekun, Kwesi Bimpong and Rubin Aboagye-Poku with an incredible mission to create a space for apprentices to grow and thrive together as a community, to conduct events for current and future apprentices and to set up a mentoring programme for aspiring apprentices.

The BAN partners with Amazing Apprenticeships to:

Inspire young people to understand the wide range of opportunities that are available through apprenticeships by sharing positive stories featuring inspirational role models through the Black Apprentice Network.

Increase parental understanding and confidence in apprenticeships, helping parents and carers to see the benefits and progression opportunities that apprenticeships could bring their child.

Support employers to attract and retain talented individuals onto their apprenticeship programmes, and help them navigate support structures and considerations to implement to ensure success.

Visit amazingapprenticeships.com/partners/ban to find out more about the partnership and explore our collaborative collection of inspiring apprentice case studies.

HIGHER & DEGREE VACANCY LISTING

Highlighting 2,300+ apprenticeship opportunities at level 4 and above!

The Higher and Degree Vacancy Listing is a bi-annual publication featuring apprenticeship opportunities at level 4 and above. The latest edition launched on 15th October and highlights 2,300+ roles from a wide range of employers across the country, recruiting for a 2025 start. 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.

View the October higher and degree listing on the Amazing Apprenticeships website

What are higher and degree apprenticeships?

Higher apprenticeships range from level 4 to 7 and are equivalent to a foundation degree up to a Master's. 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.

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 Higher & Degree listing in PDF format here:

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

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 between 30 - 60 minutes and take place on Zoom. Participants are required to register before the session and will receive an email confirmation and a reminder one hour before it begins. All webinars are recorded and shared on catch-up afterwards.

BOOK NOW

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

Date and Time	Title and Description
Thursday 17th October 2024 15:30-16:00	**Understanding apprenticeships** Join us for a more detailed look at apprenticeships – exactly how they are structured, where you find them and who delivers them.
Tuesday 19th November 2024 15:30-16:15	**Understanding T Levels** Since they launched, 30,000 students have started a T Level programme. Join this webinar to hear the latest from the T Levels team about the subjects available and why T Levels are such a popular choice.
Thursday 21st November 2024 15:30-16:00	**Get apprenticeship 'application ready'** Join us to understand how you can help aspiring apprentices to be 'application ready' so that as soon as they see a position they are interested in, they feel equipped to apply quickly.
Monday 9th December 2024 15:30-16:00	**Using the levels of apprenticeships to progress your career** In this session, we discuss how you can advance your career using the different levels of apprenticeships and how starting as an intermediate or advanced apprentice can assist you to progress further and undertake further apprenticeships at higher levels. We will be joined by apprentices who will share their apprenticeship journeys and how it helped them to progress.

Date and Time	Title and Description
Thursday 23rd January 2025 15:30-16:00	**How to search and apply for apprenticeships** 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.
Monday 10th February 2025 15:30-16:00	**Exploring the range of apprenticeships** 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.
Thursday 27th February 2025 15:30-16:00	**Using Find an Apprenticeship to search and apply** 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.
Thursday 20th March 2025 15:30-16:00	**How to impress in the apprenticeship application process** Hear directly from employers and apprentices sharing their advice on the best ways to impress in the apprenticeship recruitment process.
Thursday 24th April 2025 15:30-16:00	**Preparing for Apprenticeship Assessment Centres** 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.
Monday 19th May 2025 15:30-16:00	**Apprenticeships for individuals with additional needs** 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.
Thursday 19th June 2025 15:30-16:00	**How students can use the summer to start their apprenticeship research** 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.
Monday 7th July 2025 15:30-16:00	**Finished year 11 or year 13 and want to find an apprenticeship?** 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!

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