

# GROWING PEOPLE

## A Quick Guide to Apprenticeships for Parents and Carers

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**SEM LEP**

South East Midlands  
Local Enterprise Partnership

## A Quick Guide to Apprenticeships for Parents

As a parent you want your child to get the best possible start in life. There are many pathways available to young people after they leave school, and in this guide, we outline the benefits and where to get information about apprenticeships as a key route into a successful career.

### What is an Apprenticeship?

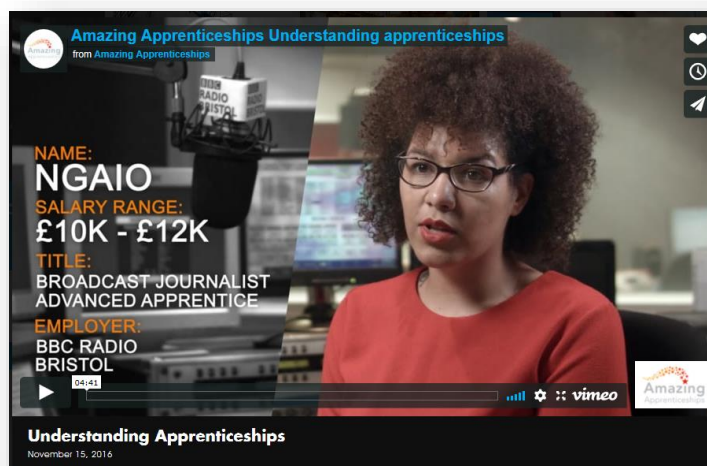
- It's a real job with training and a nationally recognised qualification
- There are apprenticeships for accountancy through to zoo keeping
- A mix of learning in the workplace developing new skills in a real work environment and formal off-the-job training (minimum 20%) by a training provider, further education college or university, either on site or away from the working environment, during normal working hours
- There are a range of levels for apprenticeships:

Level	Type	Equivalent to
2	Intermediate	5 GCSE passes
3	Advanced	2 A-level passes
4, 5, 6 & 7	Higher	Foundation degree and above
6 & 7	Degree	Bachelor's or master's degree

### Benefits

- You can earn while you learn with a salary and paid holidays days
- A pathway for both entry and progression within an organisation
- Increased future earning potential with apprentices receiving salary increases when their training is complete and/or the associated levels of salary with having a higher or degree level qualification
- Tuition fees are paid by your employer and the government

Hear about apprenticeships from the apprentices themselves – click on the image.



## Myth Busting

**“Apprenticeships are only for low skilled jobs”** – No. Apprenticeships are available at all levels including degrees and master’s levels. The job roles available through apprenticeships are diverse. Click [here](#) to see the types of apprenticeships available and under development.

**“Is it a way of getting cheap labour?”** – No. Apprentices must be paid the [National Minimum Wage](#) for normal working hours and training that’s part of your apprenticeship (usually one day per week). Apprentices get at least 20 days paid holiday per year, plus bank holidays.

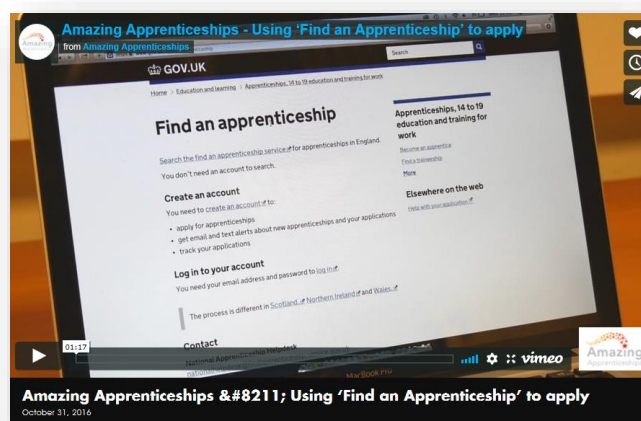
**“I can only do an apprenticeship when I am 18”** – No. Apprenticeships are available to all ages over 16 and even those within work.

## Finding the Right Apprenticeship

At any one time there are over 10,000 apprenticeship vacancies available online in a variety of careers and industries across England.

To find an apprenticeship you can search by keywords, job role, level and by location at <https://www.findapprenticeship.service.gov.uk/apprenticeshipsearch> . Once the right occupation comes up, your son or daughter can simply register on the website and follow the step-by-step instructions to apply for the role.

Click on the image below to see a short video that shows the main points of how to apply online using the ‘Find an Apprenticeship’ website.



You can also see the local vacancies on the SEMLEP website [here](#).

## What if Your Child is not Quite Ready for an Apprenticeship?

They could try a traineeship with a local employer to get ready for work or an apprenticeship. It can last up to 6 months. They will get a work experience placement and help with English and maths (if needed)

Young people can apply if they are:

- eligible to work in England
- unemployed and have little or no work experience
- aged 16 to 24 and qualified below Level 3

They will not be paid but may be given expenses for travel and meals.

To find out more about traineeships click [here](#) or to find a traineeship click [here](#).

## Local Training, Further and Higher Education Apprenticeship Support

### South East Midlands Further Education Colleges

[Banbury and Bicester College](#)

[Bedford College](#)

[Buckinghamshire College Group](#) - Aylesbury Campus

[Central Bedfordshire College](#)

[Milton Keynes College](#)

[Northampton College](#)

[Tresham College](#)

### South East Midlands Universities

[The Open University](#)

[University of Bedfordshire](#)

[University of Northampton](#)

[Buckinghamshire New University](#)

### Training Providers

[Association of Employment and Learning Providers](#)

[Bedfordshire & Hertfordshire Provider Network](#)

[UK Register of Learning Providers](#)