



Information about Apprenticeships

What is an apprenticeship?

An apprenticeship is a way of learning new skills and qualifications whilst being employed at the same time. Normally for one day a week apprentices receive training which contributes towards completing nationally recognised qualifications. Apprenticeships normally take between one and four years, however this may vary. Jamie Oliver, Karen Millen and Alex Ferguson all began their careers as apprentices!

Why should I consider an apprenticeship?

By undertaking an apprenticeship you will receive a salary, get paid holidays, receive training, gain qualifications and learn job-specific skills. If you are keen to enter into work but don't want to stop studying, then an apprenticeship could be the answer. There are many different apprenticeships available in many different sectors ranging from football to accountancy, engineering to veterinary nursing, business administration to construction. Anyone over 16 can apply for an apprenticeship which makes it a fantastic option for everyone to consider.

Is an apprenticeship the right option for me?

On the one hand the option of learning on the job may be the perfect idea for many; however there are things that you must consider. Apprenticeships often require flexibility as you may be working on more than one project at a time, whilst having to juggle practical work with classroom learning. There may be a requirement to take exams and or do coursework. Ensure that you have thought through all different aspects of undertaking an apprenticeship. It is important to remember that your employer will support you during your apprenticeship by giving you advice and guidance.

Where can I get more information about available apprenticeships?

Connexions (for ages 13-19) provides information about apprenticeships and you can speak to an advisor face to face at their local offices or discuss your questions over the telephone: www.connexions-direct.com. & 08080 013 219.

Next Step Careers Service provides similar support to connexions, however it is available for all those aged 20 or over. Visit nextstep.direc.gov.uk.

Alternatively you can get in contact with employers directly by asking them if they have any apprenticeship opportunities at the moment. This is often best done by ringing the human resources department.

If you are not sure whether an apprenticeship is the right thing for you, you can call The Careers Advice Service on 0800 100 900 or visit www.careersadvice.direct.gov.uk.

How useful was this information sheet to you? Let us know your feedback. Please contact Jobsplus@hyde-housing.co.uk

All effort has been made to provide the most up to date relevant information and web links. The Hyde Group will review these links on a regular basis but takes no responsibility for the information contained in these links or their impact on any computer hardware used to access or download information from them.