



KINGSWOOD  
SECONDARY  
ACADEMY



Recognising Excellence  
in Careers, Employability  
and Enterprise

# Community Careers Newsletter

## Introduction

Welcome to the Kingswood Secondary's Aspiration and Careers Newsletter for February 2021



This newsletter's focus is on **National Apprenticeship Week 8<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> February 2021:**

- 1) What apprenticeships are
- 2) What different types of apprenticeships are available
- 3) What career pathways students can follow by choosing an apprenticeship
- 4) The benefits of following an apprenticeship
- 5) Sites that provide information on apprenticeships
- 6) How to apply for an apprenticeship

## Apprenticeship resources

Please take a look at "National Apprenticeship Week 2021" of the Aspiration and Careers section of the Academy website to find useful links and resources to inspire and inform you of the opportunities that apprenticeships can provide:

<https://www.kingswoodsecondaryacademy.org/page/?title=Aspiration+and+Careers&pid=163>

# The Gatsby Benchmarks

A reminder of the 8 Gatsby Benchmarks all schools have to meet to demonstrate good career education and guidance as part of the Government's careers strategy for schools and colleges.

1. A stable careers programme
2. Learning from career and labour market information
3. Addressing the needs of each pupil
4. Linking curriculum learning to careers
5. Encounters with employers and employees
6. Experiences of workplaces
7. Encounters with further and higher education
8. Personal guidance



## Academy Website



The Academy website has been recently updated, the Aspiration and Careers section is found under "Our Academy". This is where information, advice and guidance for parents, carers and students in each Key Stage is located and where links to external websites can be accessed, giving the most up-to-date support and relevant material from a variety of organisations including Colleges; Universities; Apprenticeships; Traineeships and Employers.

## Careers across the curriculum



We are currently embedding Aspiration and Careers related activities into all faculty areas. Students in Year 8 have met a male nurse working in the NHS; those in Year 9 have been immersed in the demands of Mechanical Engineering and voluntary work; Year 10 have been investigating the use of Mathematics in the Construction Industry. If you feel you could contribute in any way to our developing curriculum-based career programme please contact Beth Hardy at [bhardy@kingswoodsecondaryacademy.org](mailto:bhardy@kingswoodsecondaryacademy.org)



# What is an Apprenticeship?

Apprenticeships combine practical training in a job with study.

It is a genuine job for which you will receive a wage

An apprentice works alongside experienced staff to gain job-specific skills and earn a wage (including holiday pay)

Apprentices are given time for study related to the role (usually the equivalent of one day a week)



# Entry requirements for an Apprenticeship

Anyone over the age of 16, living in England (no upper age limit). The National Apprenticeship Service is committed to ensuring that high quality apprenticeships are a prestigious option, accessible to all people from all backgrounds.

All vacancies on Find an apprenticeship will clearly state what the entry requirements are for the job role being advertised.



# Apprenticeships and additional needs

There will be different entry requirements depending on the industry, job role and apprenticeship level.

Recent changes to the minimum English and maths requirements now mean that people with a learning difficulty or disability can access a level 2 intermediate apprenticeship as long as they can achieve an entry level 3 qualification during their apprenticeship.



# What levels of Apprenticeship are there?

| Name         | Level         | Equivalent educational level                                     |
|--------------|---------------|--|
| Intermediate | 2             | 5 GCSE passes at grade A*– C or 9 – 4                            |
| Advanced     | 3             | 2 A level passes/Level 3 Diploma/<br>International Baccalaureate |
| Higher       | 4, 5, 6 and 7 | Foundation degree and above                                      |
| Degree       | 6 and 7       | Bachelor's or master's degree                                    |



## What can I do an Apprenticeship in?

There are apprenticeships available at intermediate, advanced, higher and degree levels.

These cover more than 1,500 job roles across 170 industries, from Nursing to Graphic Design, Horticulture to Electric Vehicle Engineering, Advertising to Nuclear Decommissioning.

Up to 27,000 quality apprenticeship vacancies are available online at any one time at [www.gov.uk/apply-apprenticeship](http://www.gov.uk/apply-apprenticeship) advertising real jobs, with real employers paying real salaries.



## Why do an Apprenticeship?

- Earn a real wage
- Training in the skills employers want;
- Apprentices enjoy salary increases when they complete their training (those completing a higher apprenticeship could see increased earnings of an estimated £150,000 over their lifetime.)



## How much can an apprentice earn?

The national minimum wage (NMW) for apprentices is £3.90 per hour from April 2019. The apprentice NMW applies to apprentices aged under 19 or aged 19 or over and in the first year of their apprenticeship. Many earn more than this.

| Year       | 25 and over | 21 to 24 | 18 to 20 | Under 18 |
|------------|-------------|----------|----------|----------|
| April 2019 | £8.21       | £7.70    | £6.15    | £4.34    |

## Useful Websites

<https://www.apprenticeships.gov.uk/>

<https://www.stepintothenhhs.nhs.uk/apprenticeships>

<https://amazingapprenticeships.com/apprentices/>

<https://amazingapprenticeships.com/>

<https://www.prospects.ac.uk/jobs-and-work-experience/apprenticeships>

<https://www.goconstruct.org/get-started-in-construction/apprenticeships/>

<https://www.lawsociety.org.uk/en/career-advice/becoming-a-solicitor/qualifying-without-a-degree/apprenticeships>

<https://www.notgoingtouni.co.uk/>

This list is not exhaustive but provides a useful starting point for discussion and exploration of apprenticeships as another route into a career pathway or alternative to college or university with your child(ren)

If you have any suggestions for content you would like to see and read about in the next issue of the Community Careers Newsletter please email Beth Hardy on [bhardy@kingswoodsecondaryacademy.org](mailto:bhardy@kingswoodsecondaryacademy.org)