



Apprenticeships Vs University

Why Choose An Apprenticeship?

Apprenticeships have become increasingly more popular over the past five years, even more so now.

There is a wide range of different and diverse roles you can pursue through an apprenticeship, be that in engineering, health and social care, business or even science.

Benefits of an Apprenticeship

- Earn while you learn
- High quality training
- You can still get a degree
- Gain hands on experience in your chosen career and much more!

Apprenticeship Myths

"Apprenticeships are for those who do not perform academically."

FALSE - They are a fantastic opportunity for all kinds of people looking to expand their knowledge and upgrade their skill sets, by getting stuck right into a job.

"Apprenticeships are only for manual trade jobs."

FALSE - This is not entirely true, although there may be a wide range of apprenticeships in construction, engineering, IT services, which are very hands-on, there are also a vast choice of vocational trades such as law, fashion, media.

"Apprentices have no scope for progression."

FALSE - Approximately 65% of apprentices are hired on a permanent basis by their current employer after their programme has finished and a third who remain in the same company receive a promotion in their first year.

"Apprenticeships are only for entry level or low level workers."

FALSE - Whilst there are apprenticeships at lower levels, there are also a wide range of higher level and degree level apprenticeships. There is something for everyone.

"University graduates earn more than apprentices."

FALSE - There is a common misconception among young people (and parents) that university will set them up to earn more in the future. By the time a graduate has just qualified, an apprentice will have completed their End Point Assessment and will already have a year or two experience in the industry putting them ahead of fellow university graduates.

What Apprentices Say:

"I chose to do an apprenticeship as you gain qualifications and get paid while you're doing it as well as gaining relevant job experience."

Adam started his career as an IT apprentice three years ago. He has now progressed to Technical Analyst.

What Levels Are There?

All apprenticeships include elements of on the job and off the job training. Some apprenticeships also require an assessment at the end of the programme to assess the apprentice's ability and competence in the role.

Intermediate - Level 2 - Equivalent to five GCSE passes at grade A* to C or 9 to 4

Advanced - Level 3 - Equivalent to two A level passes/ Level 3 Diploma/International Baccalaureate

Higher - Level 4, 5, 6 and 7 - Equivalent to a Foundation degree and above

Degree - Level 6 and 7 - Equivalent to a Bachelor's or Master's degree