

## What is an Apprenticeship?

An Apprenticeship is where you learn how to do a job 'on the job' whilst getting paid and gaining a qualification to prove you can do the job.

## How much will I get paid?

The apprentice minimum wage is £3.40 per hour - over a 40-hour week that's approx. £136 a week.

You shouldn't get paid less than this but you could get paid more - it depends on the employer and if they want to pay more than £3.40 an hour.

## What qualification will I get?

Most Apprenticeships are made of a NVQ Level 2, 3 or 4. You will also do Key Skills in Maths and English.

Most of the training takes place in the workplace with some time spent at a local college or training company - that could be one day per week or it could be once every couple of months - every Apprenticeship is different.

You will complete a folder of work (a portfolio) to prove you can do specific tasks and you will be assessed at work with someone watching what you do.

## What GCSE grades do I need?

Ideally you should have GCSE grades A-C, especially in Maths and English. You need these grades for two reasons - one because employers are increasingly asking for C grades and two because you need to be able to cope with Level 2 training.

It may be possible to find an Apprenticeship if you have D grades but you may be more limited in what you can apply for. Basically, the better your grades, the better your chance of finding an Apprenticeship

## How many hours will I work?

Most Apprenticeships are full-time so you will work between 30 and 40 hours per week.

## What can I do an Apprenticeship in?

There are lots of different work areas to choose from:

### Accounting



### Catering



### Business Administration



### Childcare



### Construction



### Engineering



### Hair and Beauty



### Horticulture



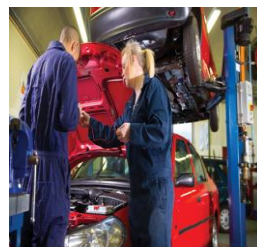
### Health



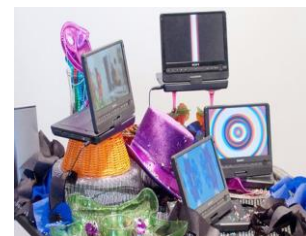
### ICT



### Motor Vehicle



### Media and Art



## Retail



## Sport



## Things to Think About

- Apprenticeships train you for a career in a specific area so you need to be sure it is what you definitely want to do.
- You cannot do an Apprenticeship for every career so it is important to think about what your long term career plans are and if this is the right route for you.
- Apprenticeships are very popular and there is a lot of competition for places. You will need to be prepared to put the effort into finding an Apprenticeship i.e. applying for lots of vacancies, contacting employers... (See [How to Find An Apprenticeship](#) for more details).