

Apprenticeships Mythbusting

9 Main Myths about Apprenticeships



Apprenticeships can help people of all ages 'get in and go far' to gain the skills and knowledge they need for a rewarding career.

Earn while you Learn

Myth 1.

Apprenticeships are for people who don't do well at school



Apprenticeships are simply an alternative route into skilled employment. They are a great way to earn while you learn, gain vital work experience and set yourself on a fast-track to a successful career.

Myth 2.

Apprenticeships are only available in manual industries

While this might once have been the case, apprenticeships are now available in over 1,500 occupations across 170 industries, ranging from nuclear to fashion, law, banking, media, music, engineering etc.

The logo for 'BUSTING THE MYTHS' is located in the top right corner. It features the words 'BUSTING' and 'MYTHS' in a bold, red, sans-serif font, stacked vertically. The word 'THE' is smaller and positioned between 'BUSTING' and 'MYTHS'. The entire logo is set against a black rectangular background with a thin red border.

Myth 3. Apprenticeships are low quality

On the contrary – quality is at the heart of apprenticeships which is why the government is launching a new Institute for Apprenticeships last April to ensure all apprenticeships deliver the same high quality training.



Myth 4.

Apprenticeships don't lead to good qualifications



Apprenticeships offer a ladder of opportunity so learners can progress from traineeships and intermediate (Level 2) apprenticeships right up to higher (Level 4,5) and Degree apprenticeships (level 6).

Myth 5.

Apprentices will never earn very much



- Apprentices must receive at least the national minimum wage Aged 16 to 18. The current **National Minimum Wage rate** for an apprentice is £4.15 per hour.
- Aged 19 or over and in your first year, the current **National Minimum Wage rate** for an apprentice is £4.15 per hour.
- Aged 19 or over and have completed your first year, you're entitled to the **National Minimum Wage or National Living Wage rate** for your age.
- In the long-term, individuals with an advanced apprenticeship earn between £77,000 and £117,000 more **over their lifetime** than similar individuals with Level 2 qualifications. While those completing a higher (degree level) apprenticeship could see increased earnings of an estimated £150,000 **over their lifetime**.

Myth 6.

Apprentices are only given donkey work



Apprenticeships are full time paid jobs with training and many high quality, prestigious companies offer them. According to Department for Education research, a quarter of former apprentices (23%) secure a promotion within 12 months of qualifying.

Myth 7.

Apprenticeships are only for school leavers

Apprenticeships are available to people of all ages making them a great option for anyone looking to change career, improve their skills in order to secure a new role or re-enter the labour market after having taken time out for whatever reason.



Myth 8. Employers don't value apprenticeships



- **Research indicates that apprenticeships boost productivity to businesses by on average £214 per week so more and more employers are now choosing to grow their business through apprenticeships.**
- **And with employers saying that former apprentices are 15% more employable than those with other qualifications, apprenticeships genuinely provide a stepping stone to a brighter future.**

Myth 9.

An apprenticeship won't lead to a full time job

In fact, more than 90% of apprentices stay in employment after their course ends, with 67% remaining with the same employer.

