

# CAREERS BULLETIN

FEBRUARY 14TH 2025

To celebrate National Apprenticeship Week 2025, Rossett School Careers Bulletins have been focusing on apprenticeships and why they could be a great option for your child. This week, we are exploring Higher and Degree Apprenticeships.



To find out which level might suit your child best, have a [look at current apprenticeship vacancies](#) and their entry requirements.



**HIGHER APPRENTICESHIPS**

**FACTS & FIGURES**

- 90% STAY: in work or training after their programme
- 65% REMAIN: with the same employer
- 1-6 YEARS: typical course length
- 30+ HOURS: per week at work
- 100% OF JOB ROLES: across many employers

**YOU WILL NEED...**

- 2+ A-levels, an advanced apprenticeship or equivalent (employers may have extra requirements)
- A real interest in your area of work
- An appetite to learn quickly
- A strong work ethic
- The ability to balance work and study

**SOME OF THE AREAS YOU CAN TRAIN IN...**

- Accountancy
- Construction
- Engineering
- Healthcare
- IT
- Law
- Management
- Manufacturing

**YOU CAN ALSO TRAIN IN THESE AREAS...**

- Childcare
- Marketing and communications
- Cyber security
- Software development
- Digital marketing
- Public relations

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## Higher Apprenticeships

- **Levels:** 4 and 5.
- **Equivalent to:** the first year of a Bachelors degree, Higher National Certificate (HNC), Higher National Diploma (HND), or foundation degree.
- **Duration:** Two to five years.
- **Typical salary:** £20,000 to £24,000 per year.
- **Popularity:** growing
- **Highest paying apprenticeships?** Click [here](#) to find out.

## Degree Apprenticeships

- **Levels:** 6 (Bachelors Degree) and 7 (Masters Degree)

Students can apply for apprenticeships while still at school but can only start an apprenticeship once they are no longer in full-time education or work.

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## What are the Pros and Cons of an Apprenticeship?



### PROS

- **Cost** - instead of having to pay off student loans and other university debt, apprentices earn a wage straight away.
- **Work experience** - while university students will need to organise their own placements and internships, apprentices get to learn on the job and are given responsibility from the outset.
- **Networking opportunities** - apprentices work with industry experts and pick up valuable contacts that should prove useful throughout their career.

### Things to Consider

- **Work/life balance** - apprentices work at least 30 hours per week, so may need to study in the evenings and at weekends, which could affect their social life.
- **University experience** - as part-time students, apprentices are not fully immersed in university life, so it might be more difficult to make friends and join societies.
- **Commitment** - higher and degree apprentices could be tied to the company for at least three or four years, so it's important for apprentices to be sure about what they want.



Check out [should I do a degree or an apprenticeship?](#)

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## Where can you find a Higher Apprenticeship?

Major recruiters in all sectors offer Higher Apprenticeships, including:

- **Aon** - insurance apprenticeships with the opportunity to achieve a professional qualification from the Chartered Insurance Institute.
- **BAE Systems** - Level 4 and 5 apprenticeships in areas including: business, commercial, engineering, finance, HR, IT and supply chain.
- **Babcock** - data analytics, electrical design, engineering, finance, and procurement and supply chain.
- **Barclays** - range of programmes lasting 3 to 5 years in areas like corporate and global banking, cyber security, finance and HR.
- **BBC** - data analyst, journalist, junior production coordinator and post-production technical operator.
- **BP** - digital product management, software and platform engineering, and supply, trading and shipping.
- **Civil Service** - apprenticeships in various government departments in areas like finance, digital and counter fraud.
- **National Health Service (NHS)** - variety of roles such as associate ambulance practitioner, HR consultant, nursing associate and healthcare science associate.
- **Rolls-Royce** - Nuclear engineering technician or procurement roles.
- **WTW** - data engineer and software developer programmes.

To see which employers have opened their application windows for degree, professional or higher apprenticeship positions that begin in (or around) September 2025, please click [here](#)

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To find out what's available near you, search for higher and degree apprenticeships at [GOV.UK - Find an apprenticeship](https://www.gov.uk/find-an-apprenticeship).

## When and how to apply

Some employers take on apprentices throughout the year, but others keep to a recruitment cycle. For companies advertising September start dates, the application process usually takes place from October until February or March.

As with most jobs, you apply for your apprenticeship directly to the employer. In the first instance, you typically complete an [online job application](#) or submit a [CV and cover letter](#). This is followed by an [interview](#), although you may also be asked to attend an [assessment centre](#).

Find out more about [how to apply for an apprenticeship](#).

## Useful Resources

Click [here](#) for a free, comprehensive guide to how degree apprenticeships offer a debt-free alternative to a traditional university degree, and [here](#) for a video giving greater insight.



For the latest Higher and Degree Apprenticeships Vacancy Listing, click [here](#)



For the February edition of Choices magazine - the ultimate parent and carer guide to apprenticeships and technical education - click [here](#)

