



HM Government



NATIONAL
APPRENTICESHIP
& SKILLS AWARDS

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 Apprenticeships and Skills

 T Levels [#SkillsAwards2025](https://twitter.com/SkillsAwards2025)

THANK YOU FOR JOINING US

We are delighted to have you with us to honour the achievements of our exceptional national finalists.

Enjoy an inspiring evening filled with celebration, recognition, and stories of success that showcase the power of apprenticeships and skills.



A VERY WARM WELCOME TO THE 22ND ANNUAL NATIONAL APPRENTICESHIP AND SKILLS AWARDS

Tonight's ceremony is a celebration of the remarkable impact that high-quality apprenticeships and skills have on individuals, employers, and communities across the country.

The success stories you will hear this evening show how apprenticeships and T Levels are changing lives. These are powerful examples of what can be achieved when people and employers invest in skills — creating opportunities in local communities, driving productivity, and powering economic growth.

Across government, we are continuing to strengthen this offer through a new growth and skills package that will give employers and learners greater flexibility and align training with the needs of our economy.

We have already introduced new foundation apprenticeships for young people in targeted sectors, reduced the minimum duration of an apprenticeship where it is right to do so and given employers the right to decide whether Level 2 English and Maths is needed. These changes open up more high-quality opportunities that enable people to get into work, progress in their careers, and help businesses to grow.

From April 2026, employers will be able to use the levy on short, flexible training courses in critical skills areas. This further flexibility will help more people learn new high-quality skills at work and fuel innovation in businesses across the country.

We hope you enjoy this evening's celebration. The finalists have shared inspiring stories, and selecting the winners has been no easy task. Every entrant should feel proud of their achievements and the contribution they make to the success of apprenticeships and skills in England.

On behalf of the Department for Education and the Department for Work and Pensions, we would like to thank all entrants and judges, our ambassadors and partners, and tonight's host, Ben Shephard.

Finally, a special thank you to our national sponsors and supporters, without whom an event of this magnitude and impact would not be possible.

Susan Acland-Hood
Permanent Secretary
Department for Education

Peter Schofield
Permanent Secretary
Department for Work
and Pensions

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A SPECIAL THANK YOU TO YOUR REGIONAL HOSTS



CHANISE EVANS

Chanise is a Journalist, Presenter, and Senior Advisor at the BBC. Named one of TV Foundation's "Ones to Watch" in 2024/25, she began her career as an apprentice at BBC CWR and is passionate about amplifying young voices in media.

Beyond her day job, Chanise presents high-profile events, podcasts, TikTok channels, and award ceremonies and is a representative on the TV Foundation's Class and Social Equality working group, which champions underrepresented voices in the TV industry.

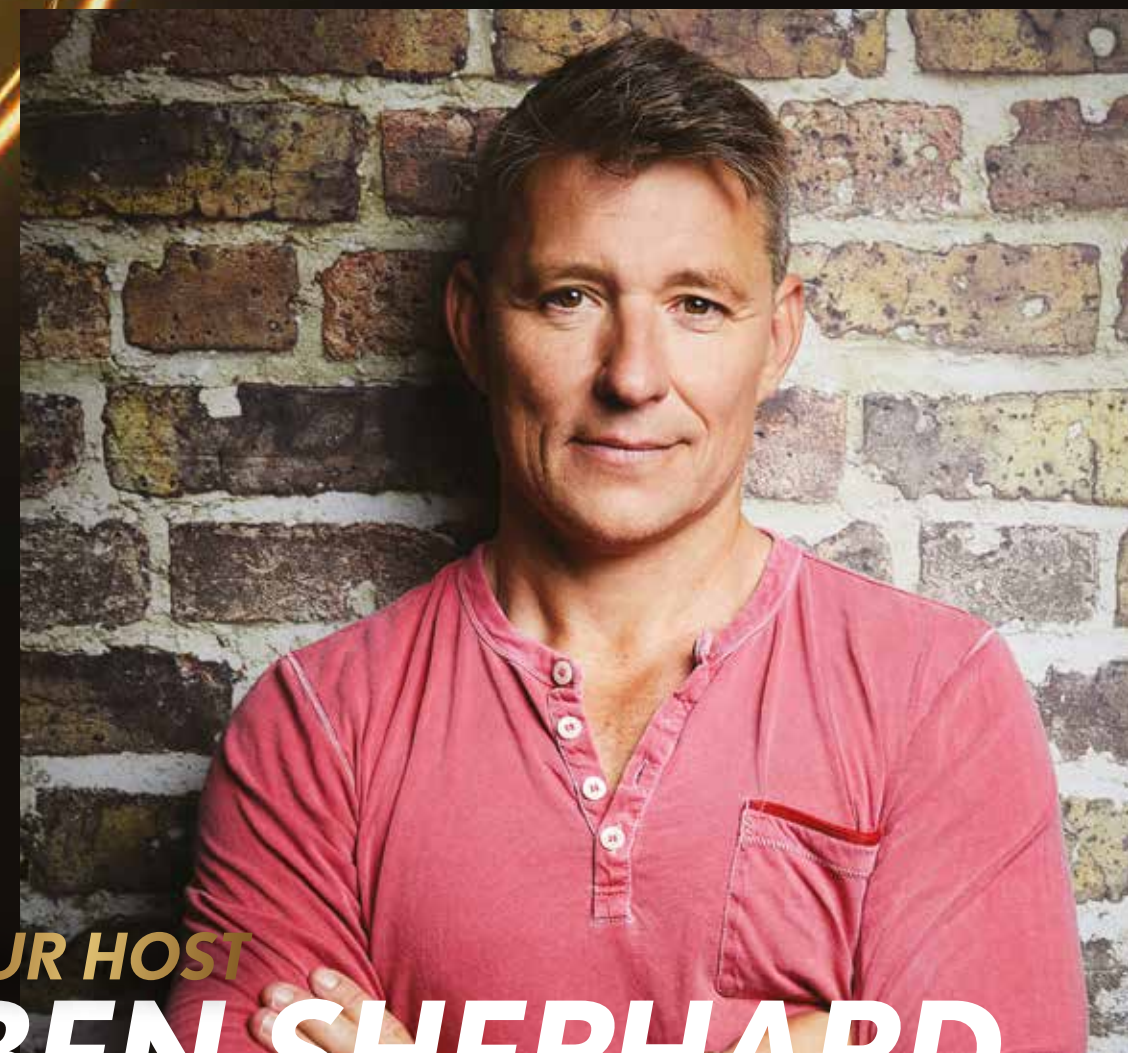


TAFADZWA MUCHENJE

Taf is a writer, actor, presenter, and Senior Marketing Producer at Channel 4.

He began his career as a social media apprentice in 2019 and has since led marketing campaigns for shows like Taskmaster, Big Breakfast (2022), and Married at First Sight.

Outside Channel 4, Taf is an award-winning writer and multidisciplinary artist. He also founded The Shed, a men's network at Channel 4, supporting DEI and gender equity.



YOUR HOST **BEN SHEPHARD**

Journalist, presenter, podcaster, and author Ben Shephard is one of Britain's most popular broadcasters.

Part of the original team that launched The X Factor, hosting the award-winning Xtra Factor, Ben's past television credits include hosting Goals on Sunday, 1vs100, Safebreakers, Behind the Magic of Harry Potter, and One Night Only with Rod Stewart.

In 2022, Ben published his debut book, *Humble Heroes: Inspirational Stories of Hope, Heart and Humanity*, and launched Kammy and Ben's Proper Football Podcast. Ben dedicates much of his free time to working with charities, which has led him to complete 14 marathons, run across the UK twice, and climb Mount Kilimanjaro in the past 15 years.

After 10 years of co-anchoring Good Morning Britain, in February 2024, Ben departed to take over as host of This Morning. He also hosts the ever-popular Tipping Point, and previously Ninja Warrior UK.

100,000 apprenticeships delivered. One trusted skills partner.

City & Guilds is proud to be the UK's leading apprenticeship end-point assessment (EPA) organisation, delivering over **100,000 EPAs**.

As a global skills partner, we work alongside employers to build resilient, future-ready workforces through:

- Strategic skills partnerships
- Tailored workforce solutions
- End-to-end apprenticeship expertise - from diagnostics to delivery

Let's build the skills economy together.
cityandguilds.com/what-we-offer/employers



Wickes

Build your career with Wickes

We know there's more than one way to build a great career.

Our apprenticeship programmes open the door to a variety of opportunities where you can gain real skills, hands-on experience, and the confidence to succeed. Whether you're taking your very first step into work or looking to grow into your next role, we'll support you every step of the way.



Find out more at
wickes.co.uk/earlycareers



A SPECIAL THANK YOU TO OUR NATIONAL JUDGES

Annette Allmark
Helen Bancroft-Morris
Wendy Belfield
Jo Bishenden
Daniel Brett
Lucy Brett
Kieren Buxton
Tim Chewter
Kasim Choudhry
Damian Corneal
Stephanie Emmanuel
Simon Flenley
Wendy Ford

Joanna Geraghty
Jacqueline Hall
Jo Hartley-Metcalf
Tegan Hinch
Lucy Hunte
Cali Ibrahim
Iqra Jaffary
Laura Keen
Isla Lightfoot
Bradley Longford
Kathryn Marshall
Claire-Emily Martin
Nikki Morgan

Sinead Mullarky
Samantha Nash-Wilson
Matt O'Conner
Raymond Olive
Tony Pitchford
Robert Ramsey Gosling-Kennedy
Tom Russell
Alexia Seabrook
Lucy Summerside
George Tsounias
Alan Wallace
Natasha Watkinson
Alexia Williams

OUR OFFICIAL SUPPORTERS



A BIG THANK YOU

As a big thank you to the apprentices across the UK who are collectively and individually creating tomorrow's workforce, Lifetime has partnered with the UK's leading brands to build you a package of rewards and recognitions that help you celebrate the life-changing decision you made to choose an apprenticeship as your route to success.

All you need to take part is to become a member with the Association of Apprentices, which is completely free of charge. If you're an organisation looking to support apprentices through The Big Apprenticeship Thank You, make a pledge today and say thank you to the apprentices who are creating the workforce of tomorrow.

WHY WE DO IT

Apprenticeships are a fantastic way to gain practical skills and experience while earning a salary. They offer a pathway to fulfilling careers and empower individuals to reach their full potential. Through The Big Apprenticeship Thank You, we aim to:

- Recognise the hard work and dedication of apprentices.
- Inspire future generations to pursue apprenticeships.
- Reward their achievements with exclusive offers and discounts.
- Strengthen the apprenticeship ecosystem and promote its value.

OUR SUPPORTERS

Thanks to the generosity of our partners and supporters, we've built an a-list of exclusive offers, freebies and discounts that'll fill you with appreciation this National Apprenticeship Week.

These partners include:



THE BIG
APPRENTICESHIP
THANK YOU

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lifetime

FIND OUT MORE

thebigapprenticeshipthankyou.org



Register during 2-27 March
for the 2026 WorldSkills UK

National Competitions

Skills competitions provide employers, colleges and independent training providers with a proven method of upskilling and developing young people from all backgrounds and abilities.



89% of previous entrants said they improved their technical skills after taking part



89% of competitors said they improved their personal and employability skills



91% said they can apply the skills developed to their education, work or other parts of their life



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more

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UK Government



worldskillsuk

CELEBRATING EXCELLENCE

Tonight, we will celebrate and recognise the very best apprenticeship and T Level employers, apprentices, T Level students and skills champions from across England. Throughout this programme you will be able to find out more about our magnificent national finalists, who are all regional winners in their category.

We would like to thank our Apprenticeship Ambassador Network and T Level Ambassador Network for their support of the National Apprenticeship and Skills Awards.

AAN
Apprenticeship
Ambassador Network

The AAN brings together the country's leading employers, as well as impressive apprentices from organisations of all sizes, on a voluntary basis, to inform and inspire the next generation of apprentices and apprenticeship employers.

It has over 2,400 members located across every region of the country, representing every sector of the economy – ensuring a strong focus on the importance of diversity and inclusion. Its mission is to ensure that every individual and employer understands the value of apprenticeships as a route to opportunity and economic success.

Join together with employers and apprentices to promote apprenticeships throughout the year! Become an active member of the trusted network using its influence to boost awareness of apprenticeships in schools; while buddying and mentoring SMEs to connect with technical education in greater numbers.



If you would like to join the
Apprenticeship Ambassador
Network, please scan the QR
code to find out more.

T-LEVELS

The T Level Ambassador Network continues to grow and champions the T Level programme, with members sharing their experiences and passion for technical education.

The network is made up of large businesses, SMEs, providers, universities, students, and other organisations including Local Enterprise Partnerships. The network has employer representatives from Mace, John Lewis, NHS England and HMRC.

If you would like to join the T Level Ambassador Network, please scan the QR code to find out more.



If you would like to join the
T Level Ambassador Network,
please scan the QR code to
find out more.

Come in. Show us what you're made of

Choose an apprenticeship at Lloyds Banking Group and you'll be right at the heart of things. No sidelines. No waiting. Just real projects, real work, real teams. From day one.

Join our supportive community of apprentices that are shaping our future in Technology Engineering, Data Science, Risk, HR and more – helping keep 28 million customers moving, planning and thriving.

Learn by doing. Build your skills. Get great qualifications. And yes, you'll be paid while you do it. Get a head start that pays off fast.

Big brands including Lloyds Bank, Halifax, Bank of Scotland, Scottish Widows.

And big investment, with £3 billion going into fresher tech, smarter data, brighter ideas and people ready to get stuck in. People like you.

We're open, supportive and big on difference. No perfect plan needed, just your spark. With real-world training, strong rewards and a culture that supports balance, you'll grow where you feel valued, backed and able to be yourself.

Show us what you're made of. Start your story strong. Join one of our regional teams and make a difference all across the UK.

Move us. Make you

Find out more at lloydsbankinggrouptalent.com

Take the next step



LLOYDS
BANKING GROUP

**Move us.
Make you**

THE LLOYDS BANKING GROUP

RISING STAR OF THE YEAR AWARD



**OLIVIA
BAILEY**
EAST MIDLANDS

Since starting her Marketing Executive apprenticeship, Olivia's confidence and abilities have both grown, and she's brought in new ideas and taken on more responsibility as she's progressed.

She's proud that her employer sees her as part of the company's future and her apprenticeship has given her the knowledge and experience to turn ideas into action as she continues to build her career in marketing.



**PHOEBE
HARBIDGE-HUI**
LONDON

Phoebe's apprenticeship transformed her from a quiet, dyslexic student and full-time wheelchair user into a confident, valued team member.

She is excelling in her Level 4 Data Analyst qualification, contributing fresh ideas, fostering inclusion, and exceeding expectations. Her journey has empowered her to build confidence, independence, and a meaningful career.



**ADAM
KEANE**
SOUTH WEST

Adam is using his apprenticeship to make the Met Office the most accessible meteorological service in the world, ensuring everyone can use critical weather and climate intelligence to stay safe and thrive.

Adam's journey is testament to the power of apprenticeships. He left school with no C-grade GCSEs and having overcome significant trauma is now forging a remarkable career.



**LUKE
MARINAN**
NORTH EAST

Luke has exceeded Nissan's expectations by successfully leading the new Leaf blanking trials, a role typically reserved for experienced engineers.

He has delivered DE&I training and recently became the youngest Mental Health First Aider on site. Personal challenges have made him passionate about driving inclusion and change, and feedback from his team highlight him as one of the company's rising stars.



**LOIS
RILEY**
YORKSHIRE AND
THE HUMBER

Lois began her career as an Administration apprentice at Equans, before earning her Level 3 in Facilities Management. She is currently completing Level 4 in Quantity Surveying.

She is recognised as key to the company's future, and her confidence has flourished with their support. She actively contributes to Equans' Young Professionals Network and Apprentice Steering Group, helping shape opportunities for others.



**KIRSTY
SIMMONDS**
NORTH WEST

Having joined the hospital at 16, Kirsty is a passionate advocate for lifelong learning.

Each of her apprenticeships has propelled her forward, building leadership skills and confidence. She's taken pride in leading vital hospital services with positivity, achieved first-class marks in all degree assignments so far, and hopes to become a Directorate Manager.



**JAGTARA
SINGH TAAK**
SOUTHEAST

Jagtara started as an Administration Assistant and went on to drive the creation of Loch Law's Solicitor Apprenticeship programme.

He has gained invaluable experience working alongside experts on complex legal matters, and is proud to be part of the firm's future growth. Inspired by the support he's received himself, Jagtara is passionate about advocating encouraging others to see apprenticeships as rewarding pathways.



**KATIE
THOMPSON**
WEST MIDLANDS

Katie's apprenticeship has given her confidence and experience, empowering her to produce high-quality work of all kinds. She contributes to planning, defining requirements and writing software that advances agricultural machinery.

She plans to pursue a Master's Degree in Software Engineering and continue developing herself whilst helping other students and apprentices find their path.



**MD ZAYEDUR
RAHMAN**
EAST OF ENGLAND

MD's apprenticeship has given him the confidence, structure, and training needed to become a Kitchen Manager.

He's developed leadership, communication, and time management skills all whilst overcoming language and academic challenges. He's improved his performance, grown food sales, passed critical audits with excellence, and shown what's possible through hard work, belief, and the right opportunities.


We're proud to be **Number 1**
The Sunday Times Top 100
Apprenticeship Employers 2025

ARMY APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAMME 


ARMY
BE THE BEST

THE BRITISH ARMY

HIGHER APPRENTICE OF THE YEAR AWARD



TIA MELIKA EL-AHMADI
LONDON

Tia's apprenticeship has given her real-world experience, accelerated growth, and unlocked her confidence.

From developing firmwide events to presenting confidently to over 1,000 students across more than 20 events, she has elevated every opportunity and given 110%, embracing every challenge as growth. Her apprenticeship hasn't just shaped her future – it's empowered her to lead it.



JOHN ELLIOTT
NORTH EAST

John lacked confidence initially but after recognising his potential in engineering he seized the opportunity to grow through an apprenticeship.

He has progressed from Fire Systems Installer Apprentice to Project Engineer, managing major projects and leading a growing team. He's doubled operational capacity, led on health and safety for 70 staff, and mentored new apprentices, and wants to progress into senior leadership.



MARCELINA FILA
NORTH WEST

Marcelina's apprenticeship was a turning point, giving her the tools to transform Whitecroft's marketing function into a key business driver.

It led to her promotion and she now leads a talented team of six, shaping product and marketing strategy to align with business goals. She thrives in dynamic environments and is committed to mentoring future leaders and fostering collaboration, through which she hopes to build a legacy of empowering others.



MOLLY GILMORE
SOUTHEAST

Since starting her apprenticeship in 2023, Molly has exceeded expectations, delivering five successful go-live projects, shaping the People Agenda for her sector, and earning IBM's Rising Star award.

She is recognised as an emerging leader, showing resilience, empathy and innovation as a neurodivergent cancer survivor and amputee. She champions apprenticeships nationally and is proof that apprenticeships transform futures.



JASMINE LOWE
YORKSHIRE AND THE HUMBER

Jasmine has taken an alternative route to her dream destination of working in journalism.

She has become an advocate for people and topics that matter to her and her community whilst also learning valuable skills and life lessons she couldn't have gained in any other form of work or education. She hopes one day to be able to relay the knowledge and experiences she has gained to a younger generation.



STACEY NORWOOD-GREGORY
EAST OF ENGLAND

Stacey has recently completed a Level 4 Hospitality Kitchen Management apprenticeship with Lifetime Training, one highlight being passing her maths exam on the 5th attempt.

This experience has developed her leadership skills, deepened her operational knowledge and strengthened her ability to manage front and back of house. She's proud to champion professional growth across her sector.



KATIE PITTS
SOUTH WEST

Katie has embraced amazing opportunities through her role at NRS, from Nuclear Week in Parliament to working on projects of national importance.

Her apprenticeship has boosted her confidence and she remains passionate about her industry and supporting new apprentices. Outside of work, she volunteers at festivals doing welfare, developing transferable skills that complement her role.



EMILY RATCLIFFE
WEST MIDLANDS

Emily's apprenticeship has helped realise her ambition of working in broadcasting as a technical operator, and she is now a highly competent member of the team, relied upon for production critical roles.

She is passionate about promoting careers in STEM for women and young girls, through outreach events and outside of work, so others can further their technical skills whilst growing in confidence across all areas of life.



ANAS SHIHAM ABDULWAHID
EAST MIDLANDS

Throughout Anas' apprenticeship he's advanced from novice tester to recognised technical lead, designing automation frameworks and pioneering generative AI tools.

He mentors apprentices, leads IBM's early professional community, and hosts youth STEM sessions, and has proven that apprentices can drive transformation, innovation and lasting impact.



SCAN TO FIND OUT
MORE ABOUT ARMY
APPRENTICESHIPS

**WANT TO GET PAID
TO LEARN SKILLS FOR LIFE?**
SEARCH ARMY APPRENTICESHIPS


ARMY
BE THE BEST



CELEBRATING T LEVEL SUCCESS

“T Levels continue to go from strength to strength, which is a testament to the brilliant employers, students and providers who have embraced these qualifications. T Levels, alongside Apprenticeships, represent the gold standard in technical education and will be key to creating the highly skilled workforce of the future and delivering the economic growth the country needs.”

Jenifer Burden MBE,
Director of Programmes at Gatsby

employers.tlevels.gov.uk



THE GATSBY

T LEVEL STUDENT OF THE YEAR AWARD



**JAMES
ADI**
EAST OF ENGLAND

James' T Level program has given him the chance to prove his value to employers, and secure a full-time position.

He's managed projects worth several million pounds and coordinated a workforce of over 50 people. Now in his second full time contract he can continue developing his skills, gaining valuable industry experience, and earning while on a break from university.



**LILY
AGER**
EAST MIDLANDS

Lily's journey began with a T Level in Adult Nursing, where she gained top marks, awards, and glowing placement feedback.

After balancing part-time jobs with a challenging 12-month Army application, she now serves in the British Army while studying at Birmingham City University. She's overcome challenges, inspired others, and is committed to a career that blends service, care, and making a positive difference.



**MOHAMMED
AMAAN
ALI KHAN**
LONDON

Mohammed's T Level placement gave him the confidence to thrive in a fast-paced professional environment.

He has contributed to major projects, including developing an autonomous retail concept using LiDAR, achievements which led to a Systems Engineer Apprenticeship and the opportunity to study a Level 6 degree. He continues to embrace challenges and hopefully inspire others every day.



**LEWIS
ATTWOOD**
SOUTH WEST

Lewis' engineering T Level has helped him capture vital skills from seasoned engineers whilst exploring skilled techniques, resulting in being named Exeter College Student of the Year.

He has joined HepcoMotion's Project Department – not normally available to apprentices – and as an ambassador for the T Level course he's excited to keep growing, innovating, and making meaningful contributions to engineering and beyond.



**MADISON
DUNKLEY**
SOUTHEAST

Madison's T Level course included a 9-week placement in the Orthopaedic department, which gave her hands-on experience, key skills, and a job offer as a Healthcare Support Worker.

She has independently secured work experience as a Physiotherapy Assistant at Xcel Health, and both roles have strengthened her communication, confidence and passion for patient care, providing a solid foundation for her future.



**JOE
ECCLES**
NORTH WEST

Joe's placement was a chance to put his T Level course into practice. He has contributed to a range of projects, meeting client briefs and gaining hands-on site experience.

He has developed valuable soft skills, and attending YAB Networking events has boosted his confidence engaging with industry peers. He plans to seek ways to inspire future generations in pursuing T Levels themselves.



**EDWARD
MORTIMER**
YORKSHIRE AND
THE HUMBER

Edward's T Level boosted his confidence and communication skills, with tutors encouraging him to reach his potential.

This supportive environment enabled him to thrive and he has been tasked with a range of projects, including creating a tool to improve productivity insight. The T Level course has been significant in his personal development and he's enthusiastic about his upcoming apprenticeship with Lloyds Banking group.



**RYAN
SKITT**
WEST MIDLANDS

Ryan has seized every opportunity his T Level offered.

He has earned trust through high-quality work and fresh ideas, introducing Matterport which is now rolled out on important projects. Outside his placement he promotes T Levels, influencing peers and universities to explore new pathways. His journey has shaped his vision and inspired him to make a lasting mark on the built environment.

IT'S A NEW DAY

Filled with new ideas and perspectives. Because you invested in bright young talent with T Levels.

It all starts with skills

Search **SKILLS FOR LIFE T LEVELS**

THE GATSBY

T LEVEL EMPLOYER OF THE YEAR AWARD



AMAZON
LONDON

Amazon's T Level program has 100% placement completion rate and 57% conversion to apprenticeship offers in 2024.

They are passionate about diversity and believe in creating sustainable career pathways, evidenced by £8.54 return for every £1 invested. By 2027, they plan to host 150 nine-week placements and 500 three-week placements across their UK locations.



BAE SYSTEMS
SOUTHEAST

Apprenticeships are key to BAE Systems' business.

Over 80% of their intake is into critical STEM occupations and T Level work experience programmes have created opportunities for students to move onto level 2 to 6 programmes, providing vocational career pathways for students from all backgrounds. As well as meeting vital skills needs, T Levels also support economic prosperity in their local communities.



BAM
CONSTRUCTION
LIMITED
WEST MIDLANDS

BAM's first T Level placement student started in 2023 and T Level recruitment is now the cornerstone of their early talent strategy.

Their national programme supports recruitment of Level 4 apprentices in crucial roles across all BAM businesses, with significantly reduced onboarding requirements and introduction of T Level learner mentoring. Their approach is encouraging a diverse workforce, bridging the skills gap from day one.



BOWMER AND
KIRKLAND
EAST MIDLANDS

Bowmer and Kirkland's T Level programme builds on 102 years of commitment to nurturing construction talent. It helped address skills shortages and an ageing workforce, while dismantling industry stereotypes.

It has also helped enhance diversity and foster career development for existing staff. Bowmer and Kirkland embraced T Levels early with College pilots and two placements, and have grown the programme to 182 placements – with plans to grow it even further.



COUNTY DURHAM
AND DARLINGTON
NHS FOUNDATION
TRUST
NORTH EAST

CDDFT introduced T Level industry placements to invest in their community and they play a vital role in their current and future skills.

They are committed to offering a wide variety of industry placements for a meaningful and high-quality learning experience. Staff are motivated to share their knowledge and expertise, and students are encouraged to grow their confidence in sharing ideas too.



HEPCOMOTION
SOUTH WEST

HepcoMotion is committed to cultivating the next generation of engineering talent amid sector-wide challenges.

The Hepco T Level Academy has established a dedicated pipeline of technical expertise aligned with industry, integrating the T Level in Engineering, Manufacturing, Processing and Control to align with their operational priorities. This year four learners have progressed from academy to apprenticeships.



LEEDS TEACHING
HOSPITALS NHS
TRUST
YORKSHIRE AND
THE HUMBER

LTHT have supported T-Level health industry placements since 2022, enabling new routes into the profession and growing a diverse and skilled workforce.

They recognise the positive impact T Level students make on patient care and have consistently increased their placements, encouraging students to explore opportunities and nurturing leadership skills in the clinical staff supporting them.



UNIVERSITY
HOSPITALS OF
MORECAMBE BAY NHS
FOUNDATION TRUST
NORTH WEST

UHBMT are dedicated to providing opportunities to learners and strive to be an 'Employer of Choice'.

They have invested heavily in providing immersive, exciting, interesting and fulfilling Industry Based Placements and are seeing a significant increase in T Level graduates seeking Apprenticeship or employment opportunities. This cultural change has seen over 100 colleagues undertake training.



WEST SUFFOLK
FOUNDATION
TRUST
EAST OF ENGLAND

WSFT are opening the doors to healthcare through T Levels, and expect a reduction in attrition from pre-reg programmes by giving learners a better understanding of their chosen pathways.

Working with T Level Students provides teams with opportunities to highlight and share good practice, adding a new dimension to their challenging roles, and service users embrace being part of a T Level learner journey.

Your digital apprenticeship partner

Power your apprentices' digital careers in partnership with the industry body for tech.



Learning resources and professional development opportunities, on and off-programme



Industry registration for successful apprentices, confirming their competence and ethics



Exclusive insight, guidance and support from our cross-sector employer network



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Together, we're making IT good for society

THE BCS
THE CHARTERED INSTITUTE FOR IT

SME APPRENTICESHIP EMPLOYER OF THE YEAR



ATTWELLS
SOLICITORS
EAST OF ENGLAND

Attwells Solicitors offer apprentices structured development plans, peer mentoring, and tailored wellbeing support, and are seeing real progression – including 100% retention to date.

They are proud of the impact apprentices have, from boosting team performance to helping grow new offices. They have now fully replaced trainee solicitors with apprentices, and are passionate about nurturing diverse, committed talent.



BENDALLS
ENGINEERING
NORTH WEST

With over 50 years of investment, apprenticeships are central to Bendalls Engineering's growth.

The opening of their Skills Academy was a pivotal step in securing long-term business sustainability and the programme produces highly skilled, well-rounded employees. By providing experiences across multiple disciplines they are building internal capability, supporting the local economy, and growing Cumbria's engineering and manufacturing sector.



COMPLETE FIXING
SOLUTIONS LTD
LONDON

Complete Fixing Solutions specialise in high-end joinery installation packages and apprentices are central to their success, now comprising 50% of their PAYE team.

They are proud to provide opportunities for people of all ages and backgrounds, embedding a culture of learning, diversity, and innovation that strengthens their workforce and secures future skills.



CRAWFORD & CO
SURVEYORS
EAST MIDLANDS

Apprenticeships are vital to Crawford & Co Surveyors' long-term success and talent pipeline, bringing fresh perspectives and energy which positively impacts their culture and teams.

They are committed to nurturing future professionals and are reaping the rewards of improved staff retention, increased productivity, and a more dynamic, forward-thinking workforce.



DPC ACCOUNTANTS
LIMITED
WEST MIDLANDS

Apprenticeships are a key enabler of DPC's growth strategy, creating a sustainable pipeline of skilled professionals who understand their business.

Investing in apprenticeships allows them to shape capability early, align training to their ways of working and build loyalty by promoting from within. So they have the right people in place to support their growth and deliver exceptional client service.



HORSTMAN
DEFENCE SYSTEMS
LTD
SOUTH WEST

Horstman Defence Systems Ltd invest in apprenticeships as a vital part of their growth, succession planning and competitiveness.

They are creating a pipeline of talented individuals whose fresh perspectives and ideas strengthen their future offering, and employees are proud to pass on their experience and skills. They are passionate about continuous development and plan to expand their programme in the future.



LSTC GROUP LTD
YORKSHIRE AND
THE HUMBER

Apprenticeships have become integral to LSTC Group's business as they progress toward net zero.

100% of their apprentices choose to advance their careers internally, enhancing motivation, growing long-term retention, and cultivating a highly skilled workforce. Apprentices receive practical experience on NSIPs with structured training and support, and are contributing to the strength of LSTC Group and the wider industry.



QUORA GROUP
NORTH EAST

Mechanical and electrical contractor Quora Group develop local talent and create meaningful career pathways across accountancy, administration, management, and M&E services.

Their apprentices contribute to projects ranging from hospitals to gigafactory developments, as valued team members. At Quora Group, apprenticeships are the foundation of sustainable careers and a key pillar of their success.



SOUTHBORNE
RUBBER LTD
SOUTHEAST

SBR believe apprenticeships are vital to their growth and sustainability.

They see apprenticeships as key to succession planning and cultural renewal, bringing fresh perspectives and energy into their team. They are passionate about developing people and the company's MD has even authored "Growing and Retaining Apprentices for SMEs" to support others on their path.

EAST MIDLANDS



EAST OF ENGLAND



WEST MIDLANDS



LONDON



CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL OUR 2025 REGIONAL WINNERS

NORTH WEST



SOUTH WEST



NORTH EAST



SOUTH EAST



YORKSHIRE & THE HUMBER





Come build the future with us

Whether you are embarking on your career or looking for a change of direction, we have an apprenticeship that will help support your development.

Explore our opportunities today and take the first step towards an extraordinary career.

Apprenticeships with
amazon



amazon

THE AMAZON

INTERMEDIATE APPRENTICE OF THE YEAR AWARD



ELLA BEECH
WEST MIDLANDS

Ella has grown in confidence throughout her apprenticeship.

Her manager and mentors have helped her develop her communication skills which she now uses to promote accounting apprenticeships to young people. She has recently exceeded employer expectations by being awarded Employee of the Quarter, showing she goes the extra mile to produce high quality work.



JOSEPH BULLOCK
SOUTH WEST

Joseph's apprenticeship has allowed him to build strong technical and teamwork skills while contributing to high-quality projects and showing leadership potential.

Known for accuracy, problem-solving, and reliability, he won an in-house competition for his precision and planning and now mentors new apprentices, helping them adapt quickly, and hopes to inspire future generations of skilled tradespeople.



COLIN COLLINS
EAST OF ENGLAND

Colin has grown in confidence through his apprenticeship. His colleagues and manager have supported him massively, and given him the confidence to believe in himself.

He is keen to share his positive apprenticeship experience and help inspire others on a similar path. Being dyslexic has been challenging in every day life and his studies but he never stops moving onwards and upwards.



JAMES COOKE
NORTH WEST

James' journey has required him to overcome serious injuries following a major road accident, including brain surgery, foot drop and hearing loss in one ear.

Despite this he has become a trusted team member, supporting the maintenance of NHS laundry equipment and leading safety improvements. Passionate about engineering and personal growth, he plans to continue his development with a level 3 MOET qualification.



ELLA GRAHAM
NORTH EAST

Ella's confidence and social skills have developed immensely throughout her apprenticeship, especially speaking at apprentice discovery nights, presenting to college students, and pitching ideas to branches.

She's grown her marketing knowledge through different events and activities, including organising a charity bake sale for CHUF, which raised £1,000.



ELYSSA MARSHALL
YORKSHIRE AND THE HUMBER

Elyssa loves feeling connected to her community, maintaining homes and supporting tenant welfare and she aspires to bring people the community, safety and care they deserve in her role.

Her apprenticeship has offered invaluable skills and insights and she is hoping to build on it in the future, cultivating traditional woodworking, boat building, and thatching skills. In her free time she works supporting male/non-binary sexual violence survivors.



DAVID ONISIMO
SOUTHEAST

Doing an apprenticeship has been a game-changer for David, helping him turn years of experience into something official, and boosting his confidence as a chef and leader.

He's learned skills, improved food quality, reduced stock loss, and helped build a stronger, more engaged team. It's reminded him that it's never too late to learn and grow, and allowed him to share what he's learned with his team, reignited his passion and ambition.



KUBILAY SEZER
EAST MIDLANDS

Starting as a pot wash, Kubilay has used an apprenticeship to turn his dream into a career, now managing big services and mentoring new chefs.

He has built real confidence, leading inspections, and becoming more skilled, organised, and driven all the time. He plays a key role in his team's success and is proud of how far he's come — and to be helping others grow the same way.



CHRIS WARBY
LONDON

Completing an apprenticeship renewed Chris' passion for his job, helping him grow as a chef and a leader.

He has learned lots of new skills, from cooking techniques to managing his time and emotions better, and now feels more in control, motivated, and proud of what he does. It's opened up new career opportunities and allowed him to support others and he's excited about where this path will take him.

Developing next generation skills

Thousands of our apprentices are at the heart of a national endeavour – learning the critical skills required to design and deliver some of the world’s most advanced technologies for the UK’s armed forces. By the end of 2025, we will have spent £1 billion over five years on skills and education – investing in people and helping communities to thrive.



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ADVANCED APPRENTICE OF THE YEAR AWARD



**TANVEER
BAJAJ**
EAST OF ENGLAND

Tanveer is passionate about training Aircraft Dispatchers and supporting ground operations safety.

During his apprenticeship he’s implemented innovative digital projects including a training platform reducing paper usage. Tanveer overcame a cancer diagnosis during his studies, achieving a distinction and the Inspirational Apprentice 2024 award. He will soon be mentoring new apprentices in his Level 5 apprenticeship.



**JANKA
BRABCOVA**
YORKSHIRE AND
THE HUMBER

Janka has led marketing, events and community engagement to drive innovation in community finance.

Membership grew by 1,200 to 11,000 with £6.5 million saved, and she has expanded access for Roma and Eastern European communities. Despite being deaf, she has balanced work, study and personal growth and is passionate about empowering young people from all backgrounds to lead, innovate and drive change.



**REBECCA
HANFORD**
EAST MIDLANDS

The skills Rebecca has developed have transformed her career and personal life.

She’s embraced a promotion to Assistant Manager, becoming a calm, empathetic leader with greater resilience, emotional-intelligence, and confidence, in the face of personal challenges. Supporting fellow apprentices and helping new managers settle in has become a passion and she’s proud to be growing at her own pace.



**NEVE
HART**
SOUTH WEST

Neve finds her role supporting staff and the public in starting apprenticeships incredibly rewarding.

Since completing her own with Distinction she has since been promoted and gained confidence, and earning while learning has meant she could buy her first car and enjoy new experiences. Pushing outside her comfort zone has helped her grow and build resilience, becoming a role model for what’s possible with dedication and support.



**KATIE
HOUSE**
SOUTHEAST

Katie has a real passion for apprenticeships. Having completed four herself she’s now an Apprenticeship Ambassador and part of a forum within Specsavers helping to shape the future for the younger generation.

Continuing to develop her skills within the apprenticeship team, Katie is training to become a coach and hopes to bring a fresh approach to the team whilst still providing outstanding support.



**JON
LLOYD-JONES**
NORTH WEST

Jon’s apprenticeship has helped him overcome challenges in his personal life and create solutions to complex data problems at work.

Named the Lloyds L2/L3 Apprentice of the Year for his work on automation, he became a pioneer for new tools and tech. Now an Apprenticeships Ambassador he plans to push himself further with a Level 6 Apprenticeship in the next 12 months.



**MICHELLE
MIDWINTER**
WEST MIDLANDS

Michelle began her ICT apprenticeship at 40, proving that apprenticeships are a powerful route for anyone to retrain.

She has provided first line IT support across PGL’s UK, French and Australian centres, and helped save thousands of pounds through improved processes and data compliance. Her passion for learning has been reignited and she champions apprenticeships through her videocasts and blog.



**PETRONELA
MIHU**
LONDON

Petronela’s apprenticeship has helped her overcome self-doubt and grow into a confident communicator who now leads the T Level programme, collaborating with Early Talent to design impactful strategies.

Passionate about connecting talent to opportunity, she proactively supports Technical Recruitment and has become a valued contributor, empowered to deliver high-quality and help others fulfil the lives they imagine.



**CHARLIE
PRATT**
NORTH EAST

Charlie is a highly driven apprentice who finds fulfilment through continuous learning and growth.

Rotating through teams has exposed him to various tasks, earning trust, responsibility, and several qualifications. In 2026 he will begin a Degree Apprenticeship in Digital and Technology Solutions and outside work continues to promote apprenticeships at careers events.

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EQUALITY, DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION EMPLOYER OF THE YEAR AWARD



BAGNALLS
YORKSHIRE AND
THE HUMBER

Apprentices have been continually employed at Bagnalls for 148 years, and 38% of current colleagues – including three Directors – began their careers as apprentices.

Apprenticeships are supporting Bagnalls' vision of being the UK's leading specialist painting contractor. They've invested in recruiting a more diverse workforce, and many newly recruited apprentices have won college and industry awards.



E.ON
EAST MIDLANDS

E.ON is proud to have enrolled over 1,000 apprentices and offer over 90 different apprenticeship pathways, aligned with their strategy and future talent needs.

Apprenticeships are not just a development tool – they're a strategic investment in E.ON's people and their future. E.ON are fully committed to providing a comprehensive, supportive, enriching experience for everyone who chooses to build a career with them.



KIER GROUP
NORTH WEST

Kier are passionate about delivering meaningful, sustainable apprenticeships which play a vital role in succession planning.

They are proud to offer structured support and wellbeing resources that help apprentices succeed and contribute from day one. Through inclusive recruitment and community outreach, Kier create social value embodying their core values – committed, trusted, focused.



OFCOM
LONDON

Apprenticeships have been a powerful driver of diversity at Ofcom, bringing fresh perspectives, energy and innovation, and helping address skills gaps whilst building a diverse future talent pipeline.

Apprentices benefit from ongoing development, mentoring and pastoral support, and Ofcom's programme has fostered a culture of inclusion, pride, and continuous learning, boosting engagement and retention, and inspiring wider community impact.



TESCO
EAST OF ENGLAND

Tesco has a committed and inclusive approach to apprenticeships, allowing them to develop a strong talent pipeline while investing in communities and creating brighter futures.

It shows how quality training can help young people make a positive start in their careers and gain essential qualifications. Tesco's apprenticeships build confidence and capability while reinforcing their inclusive culture and workforce sustainability.

How can an apprenticeship with us, help shape your future with confidence?

Apprenticeships at EY enable you to earn while you learn, study towards an industry-recognised qualification and create an impact to our clients from day one. You bring your curiosity, ambition and talent to help shape the future of business for our people, clients and communities.

ey.com/uk/apprentices

Abbie
Audit Apprentice



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The better the answer.
The better the world works.

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Shape the future
with confidence



Shape the future
with confidence

SKILLS IN ACTION

PRESENTED BY EY

Our Skills in Action campaign, presented by EY, celebrates apprentices and T Level students who are making a real impact in their industries. From those delivering in the green and digital sectors to those thriving in construction, health, and beyond, this year's spotlight is on individuals who have taken their skills and their futures to the next level.

We are delighted that this campaign returns for 2025, alongside presenting sponsor EY.

If you're an apprentice or T Level student with a story to tell, whether you've overcome challenges, led innovation, or achieved something remarkable – we want to hear from you.

Visit www.appawards.co.uk to watch this year's films and submit your own story.



End Point Assessment

Flexible, responsive, supportive solutions for employers and providers—empowering successful apprenticeships.

Construction | Engineering | Manufacturing | Green Skills | Health



Why choose NOCN Group?

- ✓ A dedicated point of contact
- ✓ Onboarding sessions
- ✓ Access to guidance materials
- ✓ Access to mock assessment materials
- ✓ Remote assessment technology
- ✓ Robust quality assurance process
- ✓ 10 day turnaround of results
- ✓ Feedback provided on assessment



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THE NOCN GROUP

SPECIAL RECOGNITION AWARD 2025

We are delighted to announce the return of The NOCN Group Special Recognition Award at the 22nd National Apprenticeship and Skills Awards.

This prestigious honour will be awarded to one of the outstanding entries received through our Skills in Action campaign. It celebrates an individual whose journey exemplifies the power of skills – individuals who have taken their skills and their futures to the next level.

We proudly recognise every apprentice and T Level student through the Special Recognition Award, and we will continue to celebrate and share the most inspiring stories from across the country.



In the AI era, skills can't wait.

All our apprenticeships empower your team members with future-ready AI skills.

Deeper expertise

Best in class AI and digital content and know how enabled by 450 QA in-house experts and ~40 technology & certification partners.

Future-proof learning

All QA apprentices have access to our unique global learning platform, providing learners with access to over 300 AI pathways.

Tailored for you

Every apprenticeship we deliver has been enhanced to provide all learners with role specific AI skills.

A partner you can trust

Partner with the largest AI and tech training company in the UK and empower your AI fluency from day one.

**Right learner. Right programme.
AI Enhanced.**

qa.com/apprenticeships



THE QA

LARGE APPRENTICESHIP EMPLOYER OF THE YEAR



**BAM UK
& IRELAND**
SOUTHEAST

BAM are delivering a five-year Early Careers growth plan to recruit 200 new UK employees, including 100 apprentices.

Current apprenticeships include 268 technical and 66 trade roles and apprenticeships are expanding into Ireland. BAM's vision is to diversify learning pathways and address industry skill gaps – building a sustainable future, one opportunity at a time.



CAPGEMINI
WEST MIDLANDS

Capgemini invest in inclusive recruitment, personalised support, and progression pathways that empower their apprentices to thrive.

By proactively co-designing programmes with providers, they are developing future leaders, and are passionate about creating opportunities and driving innovation. Their fresh approach embeds apprenticeships into transformation programmes and community impact.



**FLANNERY PLANT
HIRE (OVAL) LTD**
LONDON

Flannery's 'grow your own' approach to apprenticeships deliver a skilled, motivated workforce ready to meet evolving industry demands.

Structured training, expert mentoring, and real-world project placements have improved retention, productivity, and safety. Their award-winning approach includes Skills Bootcamps, full-time mentoring, and inclusive recruitment.



**LLOYDS BANKING
GROUP**
YORKSHIRE AND
THE HUMBER

Lloyds Banking Group's youth strategy spans school engagement, T Level placements, and degree apprenticeships, and their Activate, Motivate, Elevate model has delivered 88% retention, 35% promotion, and 51% distinction rates.

In 2024 they welcomed 600+ new starters and engaged 112,000 young people through insight events – demonstrating their commitment to helping Britain prosper through youth investment.



**NORTH EAST
AMBULANCE
SERVICE NHS
FOUNDATION TRUST**
NORTH EAST

NEAS have helped create meaningful development opportunities through inclusive, impactful apprenticeship programmes.

Apprentices are championed as future leaders and the overall approach is regularly evolved through learner feedback and strategic insight. This commitment to integration and empowerment sets NEAS apart, and they are proud to have had their strengths recognised by OFSTED.



SPECSAVERS
EAST MIDLANDS

Specsavers believe apprenticeships are key to building a future-ready workforce.

They have developed over 2,600 apprentices since 2021, with 98% achieving distinctions. Apprentices have an impact on culture and talent pipeline and Specsavers proactively invest in inclusive, flexible, high-quality development. As a result they are reaping the benefits of a diverse, skilled workforce.



**TUI UK
& IRELAND**
EAST OF ENGLAND

Apprenticeships are a core part of TUI's culture, supporting professional development and personal growth.

They are committed to offering accessible opportunities for individuals who may not have had the chance to pursue further education. This inclusive approach ensures everyone has the opportunity to thrive and progress, whilst avoiding debt and career disruption.



**WHITECROFT
LIGHTING LTD**
NORTH WEST

Apprenticeships are central to Whitecroft's long-term strategy for sustainable growth, innovation, and inclusion and are embedded into their core talent development framework, welcoming school leavers and existing employees.

This dual approach builds a pipeline of future talent while upskilling the current workforce and retaining critical knowledge needed to drive them forward.



**YTL GROUP -
WESSEX WATER**
SOUTH WEST

Since 2017, nearly 650 colleagues have joined YTL apprenticeships across diverse sectors.

Apprentices are enabling them to develop sustainable recruitment models that secure knowledge and skills through cross generational mentoring. They offer structured progression routes with clearly defined development plans, and a high proportion of young apprentices push the business to act and think differently.



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SCAN FOR MORE INFORMATION



THE ROYAL NAVY

DEGREE LEVEL APPRENTICE OF THE YEAR AWARD



MOSTAFA ABDELSHAFY
WEST MIDLANDS

Mostafa joined Rolls-Royce as a Software Engineering Apprentice with no coding experience but a determination to learn fast and make an impact.

He has been supported to deliver a range of projects including a DevOps automation tool used by five teams and now mentors apprentices, leads T Level and work experience programmes, and promotes STEM outreach across the UK.



KIEREN BUXTON
EAST OF ENGLAND

Kieren's apprenticeship gave him vital skills in leadership, AI, and software development, while balancing full-time work, study, and family life.

He has led innovative projects improving apprenticeship completions, generating revenue, influencing policy, and raising brand profile. He's supported, mentored and inspired new apprentices at the start of their journeys and has remained committed to making a difference.



RASHID CHOUDHARY
SOUTH WEST

Rashid joined Royal Mail's frontline over 30 years ago having left school with no qualifications.

He now leads a team of over 1000 people across a 24/7 operation spanning three locations, success he achieved through on the job learning built on with an apprenticeship. Rashid's apprenticeship has given him a new perspective on leadership, enabling him to drive results in a more impactful way, while enhancing his career prospects.



TYLER HARVEY-COWLISHAW
EAST MIDLANDS

Tyler's career began as a teen mum on a Level 3 apprenticeship, determined to continue her education while supporting her son.

She's since progressed to Level 6, welcomed her baby daughter, and built a career her children can be proud of. She founded the Science Apprenticeship Forum and leads national conferences, ensuring apprentices' voices help shape the future, exceeding expectations by using her journey to inspire others.



NATHAN JOHN
LONDON

Nathan's apprenticeship has let him build technical expertise in cyber security alongside studying, taking on real responsibility and seizing diverse opportunities.

Having strengthened his communication skills he now uses them to promote apprenticeships and launched the first national Gen Z public speaking community, to build confidence and communication skills amidst the rise of AI and digitalisation.



TIMOTHY NUNN
SOUTHEAST

Timothy's apprenticeship developed his technical and leadership skills through diverse software projects, while international collaborations helped build his confidence and communication skills.

He's developed and maintained several open-source software packages and led two research projects with papers published globally. He hopes to continue championing apprenticeships and inspire others to explore similar opportunities.



HANNAH RASHIDI
NORTH WEST

Hannah's apprenticeship has helped her grow into a reflective, people-first leader, delivering over £2m in value through managing transformation and cost-saving projects, and building a digital onboarding platform for 20,000+ colleagues.

Passionate about inclusion, she has championed apprenticeships in 50+ activities and leads BT's Business Early Careers Inclusion team. She can't wait to keep growing and making a difference.



SAM RICHARDSON
NORTH EAST

Sam's apprenticeship has helped him gain skills, knowledge and technical experience whilst growing his confidence exponentially.

Supported by his line manager and colleagues he has seen his responsibilities increase, and is now lead project manager on the overhead line renewal project which delivers around £4m worth of work annually.



BRENDAN WAGSTAFF
YORKSHIRE AND THE HUMBER

Brendan's apprenticeship has transformed a childhood dream into a platform for influence, and seen him deliver complex structural engineering solutions and drive innovation.

He leads Mott MacDonald's Global Apprentice Initiative and has engaged with thousands of students through mentoring, outreach, and advocacy, on a personal journey that proves leadership is defined by action, persistence, and legacy.



ROYAL AIR FORCE APPRENTICESHIPS



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With over a century of apprenticeship delivery, the Royal Air Force is proud to continue its provision of world-class training to our next generation across 8 of our professions.

Over 7500 apprentices have started their Royal Air Force careers in the last 5 years.

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Aircraft Technician Survival Equipment,
Vehicle & Mechanical Equipment Technician,
Advanced Manufacture & Repair Technician,
Electrician

CYBERSPACE

Communications Infrastructure Technician,
Cyberspace Communications Specialist

PEOPLE OPERATIONS

Physical Training Instructor, Photographer

MEDICAL SERVICES

RAF Medic

LOGISTICS

Driver, Mover, Supply Chain Specialist, Chef,
Air & Ground Steward

GROUND COMBAT & SECURITY

RAF Police, RAF Regiment Gunner

INTELLIGENCE

Intelligence Analyst

AIR & SPACE OPERATIONS

Air & Space Control Officer,
Air Traffic & Weapons Controller, Firefighter



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THE ROYAL AIR FORCE

SKILLS CHAMPION OF THE YEAR AWARD



**CHRISTOPHER
BLACKBURN**
YORKSHIRE AND
THE HUMBER

Chris leads a team dedicated to raising aspirations and creating inclusive pathways through apprenticeships, actively supporting over 70 apprentices and mentoring future talent.

He is proud to be helping break down barriers, ensuring social mobility is embedded in workforce strategy, and has delivered training on LinkedIn, AI, and personal branding, as well as building award-winning programmes.



**KATY
DORMAN**
EAST OF ENGLAND

A former Level 7 apprentice, Katy currently leads 'Apprenticeships Norfolk' - an intermediary brokerage service delivering a strategic portfolio of innovative, high-impact initiatives like #MadeInNorfolk.

She also co-chairs the National Apprenticeship Hub Network and actively seeks to shape and deliver national policy through a variety of voluntary roles. She is committed to delivering meaningful change.



**JENIENNE
HINCHCLIFFE**
NORTH EAST

Jenienne is a passionate advocate for apprenticeships and future skills, leading the Apprenticeship Team at Northumberland County Council and driving a strategic shift in delivery.

As a qualified End Point Assessor she mentors for Level 7 learners and supports individuals throughout their development journey, engaging with secondary and primary schools to inspire young minds.



**TARA
MCLAUGHLIN**
LONDON

Having started her own unconventional journey more than 20 years ago, Tara has brought her unique perspective of work-based learning and later entry to Higher Education.

She has recently worked with local schools and colleges to implement the T Levels and Apprenticeships Scheme. Spurred on by this work in skills she has completed her own Level 7 Strategy & Leadership Apprenticeship.



**TOM
ROGERS**
SOUTHEAST

Alongside growing access to careers in his day job, Tom volunteers with the CEC to support alternate provisions, SEND schools and a mainstream secondary, and is a Trustee for a local charity provider, sitting on three cornerstone employer groups.

He is passionate about championing apprenticeships and personally committed to widening participation and improving access for disadvantaged students.



**JAGDEEP
SOOR**
WEST MIDLANDS

Having grown up facing disadvantage, Jagdeep believes everyone deserves access to opportunities.

He has used his passion for apprenticeships to improve equity, diversity, inclusion, belonging and social mobility, developing innovative national platforms to amplify diverse voices and create change. He is a proud mentor and coach, and remains committed to building a skills landscape where everyone can thrive.



**ALEXIA
WILLIAMS**
SOUTH WEST

As Chair of the Skills England Apprentice Panel and MAKE UK Future Makers, Alexia influences national policy and ensures apprentices are heard.

She's volunteered over 250 hours this year and as a multi-award winner is a passionate advocate for women in STEM, and a visible, relatable role model. She proves what's possible through apprenticeships and is building a more inclusive sector.



**DENA
WYATT**
EAST MIDLANDS

Dena is passionate about apprenticeships having lived their impact, and proactively champions them across the UK.

She values collaboration and believes in making apprenticeships central across the sector, and is using her national reach to lead this vision, putting skills and opportunity at the heart of Specsavers and other businesses.



**WARREN
YOUNG**
NORTH WEST

Warren's role is to empower people with the skills and knowledge they need to grow, supporting strategic goals of attracting, developing, and retaining talent.

He believes everyone deserves equal opportunities and as well as actively supporting outreach programmes and apprenticeship schemes he serves as an enterprise advisor, helping to build future talent pipelines and strengthen community connections.



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9-15 FEBRUARY 2026

#NAW2026



During this year's regional awards ceremonies, we set our talented winners and highly commended finalists the task of completing this year's theme.

Collected from all 9 regions, our Make your Mark campaign has been a way for our amazing sponsors, employers, apprentices and students to leave their mark on this year's awards ceremony. The artwork is proudly displayed at tonight's ceremony.

NATIONAL
APPRENTICESHIP
WEEK 2026

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