

Press Release

Young people widening their options with Apprenticeships

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As thousands of young people wait for their GCSE results, many are increasingly turning to Apprenticeships to launch their careers as engineers, dental technicians, beauty therapists and even as games testers.

Of the 100,000 young people registered with *Apprenticeship vacancies*, the online system that matches people with prospective employers, 54% are aged 16-18. Managed by the National Apprenticeship Service, frameworks are available ranging from IT and Travel and Tourism to Animal Care and Sporting Excellence.

Apprenticeship vacancies is a quick, easy and reliable 'one-stop shop' where young people can search and apply for Apprenticeship places. All places advertised on the system are real jobs that come with training and since its launch in January 2009, over 100,000 young people have registered on the system.

Young people (those aged 16-18) who find an Apprenticeship will have their training paid for by the Government. They can sign up to *Apprenticeship vacancies* by following five simple steps:

1. Go to the Apprenticeships home page
www.apprenticeships.org.uk
2. Click the 'Search for vacancies' link in the 'Apprenticeship vacancies' box on the home page.
3. Click the 'Register now' link under 'New User?' and fill in your details. Create a username and password.
4. A confirmation email will be sent to you. Click on the link in the email to activate your account. This link opens a window to your 'My Home' page. 'My Home' page is your own secure space.
5. Search for Apprenticeships that match your interests. Once you've found the Apprenticeship you want, use the simple, secure and reusable application form.

Simon Waugh, Chief Executive at the National Apprenticeship Service, says:

"It is encouraging to see such a healthy appetite for Apprenticeships among young people. Apprenticeships are the perfect springboard for them to launch their careers – they get to earn while they learn, gain nationally recognised qualifications and can apply what they learn in a practical setting. This gives them a big edge in the job market."

Bedfordshire based Matt Leonard secured his Apprenticeship in Business Administration, with The Learning Partnership - Bedfordshire and Luton Ltd, through *Apprenticeship vacancies*. He says:

To find out more about Apprenticeships, visit apprenticeships.org.uk or call 08000 150 600

“With the Apprenticeship Vacancy Matching Service, I had found an apprenticeship within days. It was easy to navigate and simple to use. All I had to do was fill in my requirements using the search tool and up came a whole list of apprenticeships. It wasn’t long before I had found an apprenticeship to suit me. After applying, the response was very quick, over the next two weeks I had secured myself two interviews, the initial one with Eclipse Training and the second with the Company. A few weeks later I was offered the job.

The Apprenticeship Vacancy Matching Service was the first step taken to where I am today and its user-friendly system along with its efficient search engine provides an easy way of finding apprenticeships whatever your location! Nearly 2 months on I’m in full employment undertaking a Level 3 NVQ and am enjoying it more and more everyday!”

For further information, visit the National Apprenticeship Service website at www.apprenticeships.org.uk.

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National Apprenticeship Service

The National Apprenticeship Service (NAS) was launched in April 2009. Reporting to the Departments for Business, Innovation and Skills (BIS) and Children, Schools and Families (DCSF), the service drives forward the Government’s ambition for Apprenticeships, aiming to bring about significant growth in the number of employers offering Apprenticeships.

The NAS has total responsibility for the delivery of Apprenticeships including Employer Services, Learner Services, and Apprenticeship vacancies online. The service has ultimate accountability for the national delivery of targets and co-ordination of the funding for Apprenticeship places, acting to overcome barriers to growth and assuming responsibility for promoting Apprenticeships and their value to employers, learners and the country as a whole.