

FACTSHEET FOR BROKERS

Summary and Reason	Apprenticeships are the aspirational choice and a key element of the Government's education agenda ensuring that England is better positioned to win in the global skills race. Apprenticeships are aimed at both young people and adults with continued substantial growth needed. A new National Apprenticeship Service with a SW regional presence will be launched from April 2009. There are two levels of Apprenticeship which combine a mix of on and off the job training.
Location	England
Timing	No timescale
How	Promotion of Apprenticeships to Employers and Training Providers
Key contact	Hazel Roberts at hazel.roberts@lsc.gov.uk
Website	www.apprenticeships.org.uk

Key messages

- Train to Gain is an important route for employers to be encouraged to offer Apprenticeships
- National Apprenticeship Service launched April 2009. On-line Apprenticeship Vacancy Matching System available to employers from January 2009

The two levels of Apprenticeships are:

- Apprenticeship: Learners are enrolled on an NVQ level 2, relevant Key Skills and in most cases a technical certificate. This level usually lasts a year depending on the qualification. It is equivalent to 5 good GCSE passes.
- Advanced Apprenticeship: Learners are enrolled on an NVQ level 3, relevant Key skills and in most cases a technical certificate. This level usually lasts two years depending on the qualification. It is equivalent to 2 A Level passes.
- Apprenticeships and Advanced apprenticeships are supported by the LSC Work Based Learning Funding stream, along with varying levels of employer contribution.
- Apprenticeships provide knowledge and transferable skills to employees to enable them to adapt to new employment situations in the future. They also deliver the skills for the Learner to enable them to progress from level 2 to level 3 and beyond.
- Apprenticeships are offered in 80 different sectors of industry. In all there are over 180 Apprenticeship frameworks.
- 19–25 age group: Apprenticeship should be the primary and preferred option for young people in this age group. NVQ only funding should be considered on an individual basis against individual circumstances e.g. where an employee has a limited employment contract making an apprenticeship unfeasible.