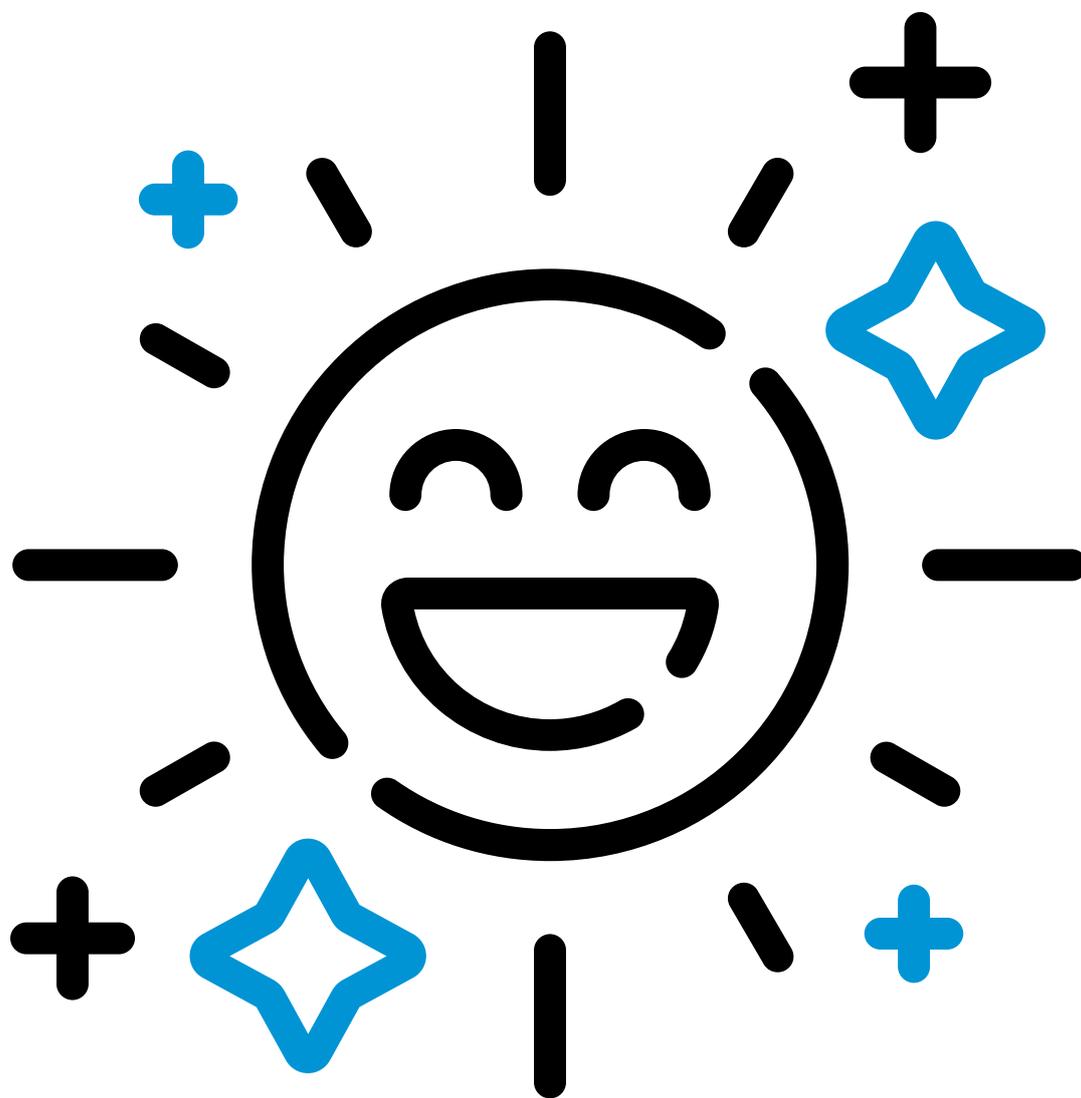


# Parents and Carers' Pack

Helping your child to search and apply for apprenticeships



Edition 57: June 2024



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visit the  
website



# Welcome

Greg Boone, Head of the Careers Service for Young People Unit,  
Department for Education

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to the June edition of the Parents and Carers' Pack; we are pleased to be able to bring you what we hope is some really helpful content!

If your child is interested in a career working with animals, they may be inspired by the apprentice stories featured on pages 3 and 4, or the T Level Animal Care and Management information on pages 5 and 6. Also in this pack, you can learn about apprenticeships in the Royal Signals in the British Army and apprenticeships at Tesco.

In exciting news, the dates for National Apprenticeship Week 2025 have been released! The most exciting week of the apprenticeships calendar will be:

**Monday 10th to Sunday 16th February 2025.**



Look out for what will be happening in your school, college and local area and keep up to date by visiting:

<https://naw.appawards.co.uk/>

<https://amazingapprenticeships.com/naw2025/>



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Greg Boone  
Head of the Careers Service for Young People Unit  
Department for Education

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# Apprentice insight: Life as an apprentice Veterinary Nurse

Meet Aisleen, a level 3 Veterinary Nurse apprentice at Northlands Veterinary Group



## What skills do you use in your job?

A lot of people skills, as learning how to interact with different kinds of people is crucial. It can also have quite an emotional impact on owners/carers, as inevitably it is never nice having to bring your animal to the vet.

## Did you always know this would be the career for you?

Not really, as before I was working at the riding school. I did a Level 6 Diploma at in Animal Studies at Moulton College, so after completing some veterinary modules, I decided that I wanted to follow a career path within the animal industry.

I knew I needed to get a spot in a veterinary practice, so I became a receptionist at first, then made my way up to Veterinary Care Support (VCS), and now I am a Senior Veterinary Nurse (SVN).

## What are your plans once you finish your apprenticeship?

Career-wise, I am not currently sure, but I feel like the world is my oyster. I would like to volunteer abroad at some point. To start with, I hope to stay with Northland Vets and complete some nurse clinics.

## How would you sum up your job in three words?

Rewarding, hard work and varied.

## Which apprenticeship are you doing?

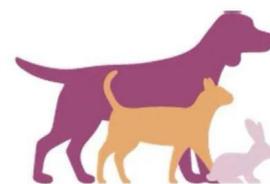
I'm doing the level 3 Veterinary Nurse apprenticeship at Northlands Veterinary Group and am in my final year.

## What or who inspired you in this career direction?

I have always loved working with animals. I used to have a job in a riding school before this, so getting a better-paid job working with animals has always been what I wanted to do.

## What are the main aspects of your day-to-day job?

I am in the hospital for one week and the next week I am at the branch. Within the branch, it consists of morning operations, afternoon consultations, discharges and running lab work, which I enjoy quite a lot and find interesting. Not many people like that, but I do!



**NORTHLANDS**  
Veterinary Group

**"I knew I needed to get a spot in a veterinary practice, so I became a receptionist at first, then made my way up to Veterinary Care Support (VCS), and now I am a Senior Veterinary Nurse (SVN)."**

# Apprentice insight: Life as an apprentice Veterinary Nurse

Meet Jack, a Registered Veterinary Nurse and former apprentice turned mentor at Northlands Veterinary Group



## Why did you decide to do an apprenticeship?

I was drawn to a hands-on approach and wanted to get straight into work, so decided not to go down the university route. You get to do the practical work for the whole time, rather than the university route where it would mostly be just learning. Even though those who choose the university route do end up being knowledgeable, they don't usually have the same practical skills when they first start.

## Why did you become an apprentice mentor?

It can be quite hard to start an apprenticeship from scratch, especially if they have never worked in a veterinary-type industry or done anything animal-related, so having a mentor helps to guide them along. Going through the apprenticeship myself has given me quite a good amount of background of what needs to be done.

## Do you have any career aspirations?

Yes, with one of my apprentices! Hopefully, she will go on to nursing which is her current goal. I want to follow her through that and become an actual Clinical Coach. This would be the next step up for my mentorship career. Then, I want to get qualified in a few other certificates such as general nursing.

## What made you decide to work in this industry?

In the last couple of years in secondary school, I did voluntary work at an animal charity. This was a turning point for me, as I knew then that a career in this industry was what I wanted to pursue.

Visit the Institute of Apprenticeships website and explore the Veterinary Nurse standard:

<https://www.instituteforapprenticeships.org/apprenticeship-standards/veterinary-nurse-v1-1>



Scan to visit the website

If you are considering a career in the land-based sector, which includes animal care amongst many other things, visit Lantra's website to find out more:

<https://www.lantra.co.uk/careers>



Scan to visit the website

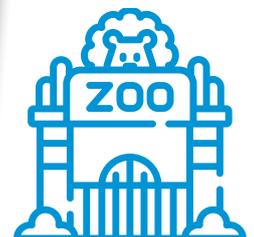
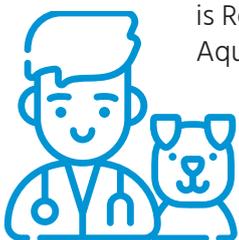
Fran, a Veterinary Nurse apprentice at the RSPCA, featured in Amazing Apprenticeships' A-Z of women apprentices. Read her story here:

<https://amazingapprenticeships.com/a-z-apprenticeships/>



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Also from the animal care sector and featured in the A-Z is Rebecca, a Zookeeper and Aquarist Apprentice!



# T Level in Animal Care and Management

Another route to consider

**T-LEVELS**  
THE NEXT LEVEL QUALIFICATION

If your child has been inspired by Aisleen's case study on the previous pages, another route into a career in the animal sector could be the **T Level in Animal Care and Management, brand new for September 2024.**

## Course summary:

- Level 3 qualification
- Two-year course
- Minimum 45 day industrial placement working with an employer
- Choice of specialisms:
  - Animal management and behaviour
  - Animal management and science

## What can you do with this T Level?

This course is suitable for anyone wanting a career in the animal care and management sector. Students can progress into roles such as:

ZOOKEEPER

DOG HANDLER

ASSISTANT DOG TRAINER

ANIMAL CARE WORKER

HORSE RIDING INSTRUCTOR

## What do you learn on this T Level?

Students will develop an understanding of a broad range of issues relevant to the sector, including:

- Sustainability, including environmental legislation, sustainable development, climate change and waste management principles
- The principles of biosecurity
- Employment rights and responsibilities and progression opportunities within the sector
- Ethical principles
- The supply chain and principles of stock management
- Business organisations, enterprise skills and project management
- Characteristics protected by equality legislation
- Communication
- Principles of customer care
- Finance
- Health and safety
- Information and data

## What do you need before you start?

- T Levels are one of your options after you've finished GCSEs.
- Entry requirements for each course are set by the individual school or college.
- Check with your local T Level school or college to find out the entry requirements for the Animal Care and Management T Level.

T Levels are an alternative to A-levels, apprenticeships and other age 16 to 19 courses.

Equivalent in size to 3 A-levels, a T Level focuses on vocational skills and can help students into skilled employment, higher study or apprenticeships. Each T Level includes an in-depth industry placement that lasts at least 45 days. Students get valuable experience in the workplace and employers get early sight of the new talent in their industry.



Find out more about this T Level here:  
<https://www.tlevels.gov.uk/students/subjects/animal-care-management>



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the website

# Apprenticeships uncovered

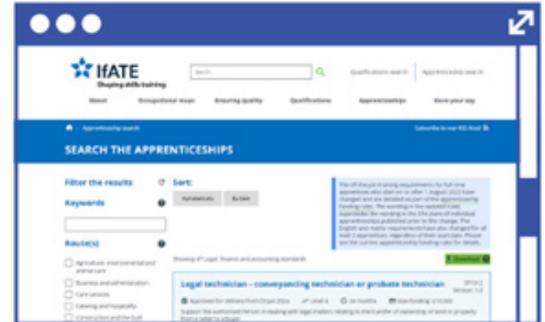
Keep up to date with apprenticeship opportunities

Apprenticeships are continually created and released through The Institute for Apprenticeships and Technical Education. The list below focuses on the [Protective services](#) route and includes some apprenticeships you may not have considered before. You can find out more on The Institute website:

[www.instituteforapprenticeships.org/apprenticeship-standards](http://www.instituteforapprenticeships.org/apprenticeship-standards)



Scan to visit the website



Custody and detention professional		Ensure that individuals in custody and detention centres are held in a secure, safe, decent and fair environment.	Level 3
Emergency contact handler		Receive emergency calls and work in organisations such as Ambulance, Fire, Police, the NHS, National Highways and the Maritime and Coastguard Agency. Identify risks, communicate information and give advice.	Level 3
Fire safety advisor		Help protect people, premises and the environment from fire. Assess risks and hazards associated with fire, evaluate protection measures and report breaches. Ensure that people, property and the environment are safe.	Level 3
Intelligence analyst		Identify patterns and trends in information and data. Work in organisations such as military, law enforcement, security, finance and commerce. Produce briefings and reports to understand threats.	Level 4
Police community support officer		Help deal with and prevent crime as part of a neighbourhood policing team. Communicate and support the community. Gather information within the community for investigations.	Level 4
Professional security operative		Protect people, assets, property and premises via a layered security approach. Monitor areas to act as a deterrent, identify suspicious subjects, conduct regular searches and report information following organisational procedure.	Level 2
Serious and complex crime investigator		Prepare suspect strategies and arrest strategies. Conduct systematic searches of vehicles, premises and open areas. Gather information for briefings, formulate investigative strategies, manage case files and present evidence in court.	Level 6

# Apprenticeships in the Royal Signals

Find out more about the Royal Signals in the British Army



**If your child is interested in a career in IT, cyber and telecommunications, an apprenticeship in the Royal Signals in the British Army could be the perfect next step for them.**

## Who are the Royal Signals?

The Royal Signals are leaders in IT, cyber and telecommunications and provide battle-winning communications to the rest of the Army. The Royal Signals use their initiative in fast-moving environments to set up complex computer and radio networks. The soldiers also enable communications on humanitarian missions. The Royal Signals are based in various locations across the UK including York, Glasgow, Bristol, London and many more.

## What apprenticeship opportunities are there?

Apprenticeships in the Royal Signals include the roles of Cyber Engineer, Supply Chain Operative, Power Engineer, Royal Signals Officer, Electronic Warfare Signals Intelligence and Communication Infrastructure Engineer.

## What are the entry requirements?

The entry requirements for each role vary and may include GCSEs and basic physical fitness assessments. There is also the age requirement, which varies depending on the job role. The starting salary of the Electronic Warfare and Signals Intelligence, Power Engineer, Supply Chain Operative and Cyber Engineer roles is £18,687, which increases to £23,496 after completing the 14-week adult basic training.

## Roles in the Royal Signals

### Cyber Engineer

The exciting role of a Cyber Engineer is to install, maintain and protect complex networks to support defence communications, on and off the battlefield, while also gaining cyber, engineering, and aerial rigging qualifications. Cyber engineers install, service and repair telecommunications data cable networks and data centres, and configure switches, routers, servers and LAN access equipment. The entry requirements for this role are GCSEs or equivalent and aged 16 years and 6 months to 35 years and 11 months.

Find out more:

<https://britishar.my/zP4clo>



**Scan to visit  
the website**

### Power Engineer

Another role in the Royal Signals is a Power Engineer, providing innovative solutions globally to ensure power to battle-winning communications can be distributed and maintained. Power Engineers ensure that soldiers can communicate on operations. In the role of a Power Engineer, they can gain a Level 3 Maintenance and Operations Engineering Technician apprenticeship. The entry requirements for this role are GCSEs or equivalent and aged 16 years and 6 months to 35 years and 11 months.

Find out more:

<https://britishar.my/C3hU05>



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the website**



# Apprenticeships in the Royal Signals

Find out more about the Royal Signals in the British Army

## Electronic Warfare and Signals Intelligence

The role of an Electronic Warfare and Signals Intelligence Soldier is to identify and exploit the enemy's electromagnetic signature in cyber-space. They use cyber and signals intelligence to intercept enemy voice and data transmissions to identify the enemy's locations, intentions and movements. The entry requirements for this role are GCSEs or equivalent and aged 17 years and 9 months to 35 years and 11 months.

Find out more:

<https://britisharmy.com/fD9zzO>



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the website**

## Supply Chain Operative

The key responsibilities of a Supply Chain Operative are to drive supply vehicles and manage and plan the warehouse. The Supply Chain Operative is also responsible for the maintenance of communication equipment, maintaining the stock, tracking equipment orders and ensuring the equipment is in the correct place. The entry requirements are to be aged 16 years and 6 months to 35 years and 6 months, but no formal qualifications are required for this role.

Find out more:

<https://britisharmy.com/UaNCOs>



**Scan to visit  
the website**

## Royal Signals Officer

A Royal Signals Officer has the role of commanding small specialist teams or large troops of up to 45 people. They motivate the soldiers who are responsible for the Army's communication systems. A Royal Signals Officer also coordinates electronic warfare effects on enemy communication networks. The entry requirements for this role are certain GCSEs and UCAS points (or equivalent) and aged 17 years and 9 months to 28 years and 11 months. The starting salary for this role is £31,305, which increases to £37,425 after completing the basic training.

Find out more:

<https://britisharmy.com/39RCXm>



**Scan to visit  
the website**

## Communications Infrastructure Engineer

The role of a Communication Infrastructure Engineer is to install complex communications systems on and off the battlefield. Key responsibilities include building voice and data telecommunications



network infrastructure in fixed locations and supporting rapid reaction deployments across the world. The entry requirements for this role are GCSEs or equivalent and aged 16 years and 6 months to 35 years and 6 months. The starting salary for this role is £16,844, which increases to £21,425 after completing the basic training.

Find out more:

<https://britisharmy.com/AyWSca>



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the website**



# Apprenticeships in the Royal Signals

Hear from some Royal Signals apprentices



We asked some Royal Signals apprentices about their apprenticeships.

## What are the benefits of your apprenticeship with the Army?

It's a great qualification to have when leaving the Army.

Gaining a civilian recognised qualification.

It improves my knowledge of my job.

It unlocks further education going forward in my career.

More employable when you leave the Army.

Knowledge of emerging technologies, increased understanding from research and delivery, experience from delivery of varied projects.

Get to understand my job in the civilian world.

Opportunities to travel and work alongside / learn from equivalent tradespeople from different nations.

## What would your advice be to others about doing an apprenticeship with the Army?

The qualifications you can eventually get are great. It would be a wasted opportunity to not do it.

Ensure you take full advantage of the opportunity you have to complete it.

It's a great opportunity - make use of it. It gives you a relevant civilian qualification, free of charge.

Take every opportunity to learn from the more experienced members of your trade.

## Did you have any misconceptions about being in the Army?

I didn't know that the opportunities to develop my trade or even learn other new things would be so accessible and abundant.

I thought I would have much less say in the direction my career goes.

That the stuff you would learn/knowledge you gain wouldn't be transferable back to civilian life which is not true in the slightest and getting the recognised qualifications helps massively in that matter.

# Finding an LGBTQ+ inclusive employer

What to look for and consider when researching apprentice employers

Amazing Apprenticeships have produced a resource to support people looking for an LGBTQ+ inclusive employer.

Find this Rapid Read and lots of others from Amazing Apprenticeships at:  
<https://amazingapprenticeships.com/resources/?rapid-reads=1>



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the website



**FINDING AN LGBTQ+ INCLUSIVE EMPLOYER**  
 What to look for when researching apprenticeships

Amazing Apprenticeships

Everyone should feel valued and accepted in the workplace. There are many different ways that employers may demonstrate they are an inclusive organisation for LGBTQ+ employees and it can be useful for potential applicants to know what to look for. This guide provides a few examples, and there will be other excellent approaches that employers have in place.

**LOOK AT THE EMPLOYER'S WEBSITE AND SOCIAL MEDIA**

**Support and celebration**  
 Look for any examples that the employer has shared on their website or social media, demonstrating how they support LGBTQ+ colleagues, or events such as Pride, LGBTQ+ History Month or Trans Day of Visibility. Also take a look to see if they share news stories or case studies showcasing LGBTQ+ people or events outside of Pride month in June.

**Rainbow logo during Pride**  
 You may notice that at key points in the year, such as during Pride month, organisations may adapt their company logo (often to include a rainbow flag) to demonstrate their allyship to LGBTQ+ staff and customers.

**Awards and recognition**  
 If an employer has won any awards for inclusivity or achieved a quality mark or standard that recognises their efforts in this space, they will usually display logos and badges on their website.

**Staff networks and support groups**  
 Find out if the employer shares information about any LGBTQ+ networks, support groups or champions they may have.

**EDI statement**  
 Look for a public statement on equality, diversity and inclusion (EDI). You should be able to search on their website and if they have a 'Careers with us' page, you may find statements or policies there. This will set out the organisation's commitment to ensuring an equitable, diverse and inclusive workplace.

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**FINDING AN LGBTQ+ INCLUSIVE EMPLOYER**  
 What to look for when researching apprenticeships

**Amazing Apprenticeships**

**LOOK AT THEIR RECRUITMENT PROCESSES**

- Sharing pronouns**  
 It can be a positive indication of inclusivity and allyship if staff share their pronouns in email signatures at the bottom of their emails, in staff profiles on their website or on LinkedIn profiles.
- Specialist employment agencies**  
 Some employers might advertise with specialist employment agencies who specifically list vacancies for LGBTQ+ inclusive organisations.
- Diversity monitoring & use of data**  
 If the employer includes a diversity monitoring form within application packs, it indicates that they are committed to creating a strong equality and inclusion culture by monitoring diversity.
- Pronoun options for applicants**  
 Check to see if there are pronoun options for applicants to use on their application forms, or space to add their own text.
- Gender neutral language**  
 Look out for use of gender neutral language and phrases in job adverts and other literature.
- Encouraging the conversation**  
 At careers fairs, look out for posters or other literature that may show they are an LGBTQ+ inclusive employer and encourages people to ask questions if they want to. For example this could be a case study, rainbow lanyard or rainbow ribbon.
- Language used within job adverts**  
 Check if the employer includes a statement in job adverts that communicates their commitment to creating an inclusive workplace for people of all sexual orientations and gender identities, for example, 'We welcome applications from...!', 'We are committed to...'.

# Supported Internships

## What is a supported internship and how will it benefit my child?

Supported Internships have been developed as a valuable opportunity for young people with an Education, Health and Care plan (EHC plan) or a Statement of Special Educational Need or Disability (SEND). It helps to provide these young people with work experiences and the variety of skills that will be expected in the workplace.

### How does a Supported Internship work?

A Supported Internship is a structured study programme that is based mainly with an employer. They last for a minimum of 6 months and a maximum of 1 year and allow your child to experience a range of different departments within a business.

Your child will complete a personalised study programme which includes maths and English, but also the opportunity to study for other work-related qualifications. This will help them to move into paid employment at the end of their internship. Supported Internships focus on a much more personalised experience for your child to ensure that they are getting the most supportive and best opportunity possible.



### What support will my child get?

As well as having a personalised programme that has been designed to meet their needs, your child will also get their own job coach. Their job coach will work directly with your child to set up step-by-step methods to allow them to deal with the tasks they are being asked to do. The job coach will also offer one on one support to your child as they work through their internship. Not only does the job coach support your child, but they also support the employer by helping them to make any adjustments that would help to support your child. Your child may find that as they grow in confidence, they need less support from their job coach, but of course they will always remain a key point of contact.



### What will my child achieve?

Your child will be supported as they learn and develop the skills that are important to employers. It will also allow your child to demonstrate their value in the workplace, but most importantly it will help them to become more confident in their own abilities and how these abilities allow them to perform successfully at work!

### How can I apply or find out more information?

Your child's school or college should have information about Supported Internships and can help your child apply. You can also get some more help and guidance from your social worker or transition worker. When you start to look at Supported Internships, the role should fit with the likes and dislikes of your child. The learning provider will be able to identify these likes and dislikes and put together the best programme for your child. Not only will this get the best out of your child, but it will also help to carve out a plan for their future employment.

You can get further information and support from:

<https://nationalcareers.service.gov.uk/explore-your-education-and-training-choices/supported-internship>



Scan to visit  
the website

# Apprenticeships at Tesco

Stronger Starts Retail Apprenticeship vacancies are now live!



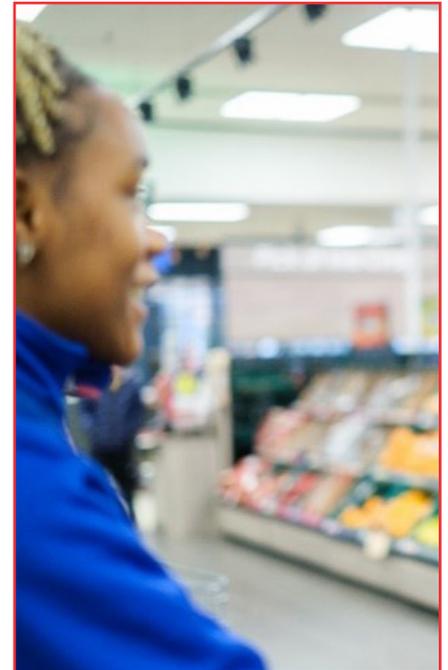
## Stronger Starts

### Interested in apprenticeships?

Tesco's Stronger Starts Retail Apprenticeship may be the perfect next step for you!

- Minimum starting salary of £22,501.44
- No qualifications or experience required
- Support from dedicated coach, colleagues and The Prince's Trust
- Exciting progression opportunities
- Vacancies available nationally

Applications open  
24th June 2024  
for a September  
2024 start.



To find out more, visit:

<https://amazingapprenticeships.com/tesco/>

Catch up on an exclusive webinar with the Tesco Early Careers Team and take an interactive quiz!



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the website





# Higher Technical Qualifications (HTQs)

Key facts about this exciting post-18 option

Higher Technical Qualifications (HTQs) are new and existing, job-focused level 4 and 5 qualifications such as Higher National Diplomas (HNDs), Higher National Certificates (HNCs) and Foundation Degrees.

Here we share some key facts:

HTQs are new and existing level 4 and 5 qualifications.

HTQs have been approved to deliver the skills employers need.

All qualifications approved as HTQs are an exciting option for individuals aged 18+.

More and more occupations will be available each year.

They're available across the country in further education colleges, universities and Institutes of Technology.

HTQs are flexible and can be studied full-time or part-time.

An HTQ will usually take 1-2 years to complete.

HTQs are typically delivered in classroom settings.

Students are able to access the same student finance as a degree.

HTQs could lead into an accelerated apprenticeship, full degree or employment.

HTQs can lead to fantastic jobs such as Nursing Associate, Software Developer and Sports Coach.

Look out for the HTQ qualification approval logo!



Find out more about HTQs by visiting the new Amazing Apprenticeships' HTQs page, where you will find guides, webinars and more:

<https://amazingapprenticeships.com/htqs/>



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# Dates for your diary

Free webinars throughout the year for careers staff, teachers and parents/carers

As part of the Apprenticeship Support and Knowledge for Schools and Colleges programme (ASK), Amazing Apprenticeships are offering careers staff, teachers and parents/carers a schedule of free webinars throughout the year, to find out more about apprenticeships and how to support your child.

This series of informative webinars will provide an abundance of tips, advice and information from expert speakers across the apprenticeships and technical education world. Each webinar lasts for 30 minutes and will take place on Zoom. Participants are required to sign up before the session and will receive an email confirmation and a reminder an hour before it begins. The webinars will be recorded and shared with all registrants after the session.

Book your free place and catch up on recordings of all previous webinars here: <https://amazingapprenticeships.com/workshops-webinars/>



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## 2024

<b>How to promote and support apprenticeships and technical education in your school or college</b>	Thursday 20th June 2024 3:30pm	Top tips and ideas for promoting apprenticeships and technical education, and supporting students, parents, carers and staff to understand the options.
<b>Everything you need to know – Summer term round-up</b>	Thursday 11th July 2024 3:30pm	This termly update is the third in a series of key information webinars for teachers and careers leaders. Expert speakers from Amazing Apprenticeships and the DfE will highlight what's new in technical education and apprenticeships and will cover any recent changes in policy and funding.

# THE ASK PROGRAMME

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## APPRENTICESHIPS & TECHNICAL EDUCATION

