

Spotlight on Apprenticeships

Devizes

An apprenticeship snapshot for Wiltshire

July 2019

This newsletter was produced by the Employment and Skill Service at Wiltshire Council to showcase employers, providers and the range of opportunities available through the apprenticeship route.

Apprenticeships in Wiltshire

Wiltshire saw 5720 apprenticeships started between August 2017 and July 2018.

The parliamentary constituency of Devizes which includes the towns and villages of Durrington, Market Lavington, Marlborough, Pewsey and Tidworth accounted for 1820 of these starts across all sectors and levels.



Starts for the first two quarters of this academic year (August to January) show a promising start with a total of 2880 starts recorded for Wiltshire; 820 of which were across the Devizes constituency.

Data Source [FE Data Library](#)

Be Involved



[Be Involved](#) is a Wiltshire initiative that enables employers to support the employability of young people and the future workforce. In creating a directory of organisations who pledge to work together around key areas across the county: supporting local schools and those with significant barriers to work, apprenticeships, traineeships and supported internships.

Be Involved enables business to support the residents of Wiltshire as well as assisting local projects such as the [Enterprise Adviser Network](#) and [Building Bridges](#).

Meet an apprentice

We regularly feature [Apprentice Stories](#) on our website; meet Callum a Apprentice Electrician at Devizes based Aster Group [here](#).



National Apprenticeship Week 2020

National Apprenticeship Week is an annual week-long celebration of apprenticeships across England.



Apprenticeship employers use the opportunity to promote the success of their apprentices and highlight the huge benefits to other employers, of all sizes, who are thinking of taking on an apprentice.

Apprentices across the country will also be celebrated throughout the week, with engagement and events in schools and colleges. Many current and former apprentices will go back to school to tell their story, attracting the next generation of apprentices, so they too can fire up their future career.

Current vacancies in this area

Apprenticeship vacancies are advertised throughout the year by local employers such as Tidworth Polo Club, Renelec Groundworks, Cross Manufacturing, Rushall Organic Farm and Hartmoor Merchandising. You can search for vacancies [here](#).

Below is a sample of **live vacancies** for this area

[Castle and Ball Hotel – Chef](#)

[Wellington College Academy Trust – Infrastructure Technician](#)

Apprenticeship Reforms – What's new?

Apprenticeships have seen considerable change through the introduction of these reforms and the apprenticeship levy, a charge payable by employers with a wage bill greater than £3m; this money is then reinvested into apprenticeship training for businesses of all sizes.

SME's to test the Apprenticeship Service

The Education and Skills funding Agency (ESFA) has opened an Expressions of Interest (EOI) for small and medium sized employers (SMEs) and supporting training providers that currently have a non-levy contract to help the ESFA in its initial phase, to test the system functionality of the apprenticeship service for employers who do not pay the Levy.

SMEs that do not pay the Apprenticeship Levy, as well as their supporting training providers, can now [express their interest](#) to help ESFA shape its services so it meets future needs for all employers.

SMEs who have apprenticeship starts due in November and December 2019 will be given the opportunity to submit an EOI in the summer.

Employing Young People

The Government are committed to an apprenticeship programme that supports young people into quality apprenticeships and recognise that for employers who take on young apprentices aged 16-18 years old, there are some additional costs associated with supporting them in the workplace.

When employers take on a 16-18-year-old on an apprenticeship framework or standard, they receive £1,000 to help meet the extra costs associated with this.

An alternative to university!

Higher and Degree level apprenticeships are an area of rapid growth and offer a real alternative to university for applicants and not just for those that live in large cities such as London, Bristol and Birmingham. There are some great opportunities across Swindon and Wiltshire from businesses such as Arla Foods, Bew & Co, Hartham Park, Siemens and Zircon Software.

Applications for these programmes often open well in advance of the job starting, usually between October and March to start the following September. It is therefore important to sign up to the [Find an Apprenticeship](#) service website where you can opt in to receive alerts as vacancies are announced based on your criteria or location.

The National Apprenticeship Service offer support through their [vacancy snapshot](#) publication which highlights national opportunities

Apprenticeship Ambassador Network

The South West Apprenticeship Ambassador Network (SWAAN) is a group of employers, whose main aim is to engage new businesses to commit to apprenticeship delivery in the South West of England. The Apprenticeship Ambassador Network inspires and influences people to choose apprenticeships, as a route to create business and individual success across the country.

The Apprenticeship Ambassador Network is for businesses who have apprentices in their workforce regardless of size or industry.

Current and former apprentices can provide inspiration for the next generation by attending events and speaking at local schools; providing an insight into their day to day work roles.

To get involved in the regional network contact us or look at the website for more information [here](#)

#FACT

Apprenticeships are not only for those with low skills and qualifications!

300 people have started a higher-level apprenticeship, equivalent to studying a foundation degree or higher across Wiltshire during this academic year to date

Awards

Wiltshire Life Awards 2020 – Apprentice of the Year recognises the achievements of apprentices and the contribution they make to the Wiltshire economy and growth. Entrants must demonstrate outstanding commitment to their professional development and show how they have made a positive difference to their employer. More information and to apply [here](#)

Our offer to employers

The Employment and Skills Service with our colleagues at [Higher Futures](#) can support businesses of all sizes to develop an apprenticeship programme, help with recruitment and upskill existing employees through a series of training programmes and apprenticeship options, many funded through our extensive partnership network.

If you are an employer or an apprentice and would like to feature in future editions, contact us using the details below.

Work Wiltshire

Tel - 01225 756184

Web – workwiltshire.co.uk

Email - workwilts@wiltshire.gov.uk

Twitter - [@WorkWiltshire](https://twitter.com/WorkWiltshire)