

# Spotlight on Apprenticeships

## South West Wiltshire

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 South West Wiltshire which includes the towns and villages of Trowbridge, Warminster and Westbury accounted for 970 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; 520 of which were across the South West Wiltshire 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 Ryan a higher-level apprentice in Civil and Environmental Engineering at Atkins [here](#).



## National Apprenticeship Week 2020

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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

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Apprenticeship vacancies are advertised throughout the year by local employers such as Tiger Martial Arts, Apetito, Four Hills Care, Centre Parcs and Monahans. You can search for vacancies [here](#).

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

[Tiger Martial Arts – Martial Arts](#)

[The Look Good Co – Hairdressing](#)

[Bathwick Tyres - Vehicle Fitter](#)

## #FACT

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86% of employers said that apprentices helped to develop relevant skills for the organisation, and to fill the skills gap.

Source: [National Apprenticeship Service](#)

## Awards

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**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](#)

## Apprenticeship Reforms – What's new?

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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.

### Off the job training

The Education and Skills Funding Agency have published a guide on [how employers and training providers should meet the 20% off-the-job training requirement](#) for apprentices.

### Support for care leavers and those who have a local authority Education, Health and Care Plan

Employers who train an apprentice who is aged 19-24 and has previously been in care or who has a Local Authority Education, Health and Care plan, will receive £1,000 to help with additional costs in the same way as the payment for 16-18-year olds.

## An alternative to university!

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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

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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](#)

## Meet an apprentice

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We regularly feature [Apprentice Stories](#) on our Work Wiltshire website; you can also learn about what it means to be an apprentice at Wiltshire Council [here](#).



## Our offer to employers

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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.

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