

South West Young Apprentice Ambassador Network (SWYAAN)

Information for apprentices



What is the SWYAAN?

The South West Young Apprentice Ambassador Network (SWYAAN) is a community of passionate apprentices and former apprentices who have chosen to share their apprenticeship story with others.

Young Apprentice Ambassadors use their own positive apprenticeship experience as a powerful tool for engaging and inspiring the next generation of apprentices.

What do Young Apprentice Ambassadors do?

- ✓ Ambassadors will be invited to promote apprenticeships to young people, their teachers, parents and employers through a variety of exciting events
- ✓ Ambassadors will be encouraged to use social media to inspire and engage different audiences, sharing the fantastic benefits of being an apprentice and a member of the YAAN
- ✓ Ambassadors have also found themselves presenting at awards ceremonies, speaking at the House of Commons, have been the face of national TV apprenticeship campaigns and have been invited to high profile events.



Young Ambassadors have presented at hundreds of school and careers events across the country. Why don't you think about joining us.....

How do I sign up?

We want energetic, engaged young people aged 18-26 to sign up to the SWYAAN.

Signing up is quick and easy. You'll become part of the South West regional network, receive free training and helpful resources, and use your story to make a significant difference to the lives of future apprentices.

Visit www.amazingapprenticeships.com/yaan to get started.



'Being part of the South West Young Apprentice Ambassador Network is a brilliant opportunity. Not only do you get to inspire others with your story, you also get invited to lots of events. Our network of Young Apprentice Ambassadors in the South West are a fantastic community of guys and girls.'

Toby Cowan

Chair of South West YAAN

[Twitter](#): South West Apprenticeship Ambassador Network / @SouthWestYAAN

[Instagram](#): South West YAAN / @SouthWestYAAN

Website: southwestaan.com

Search for apprenticeships on GOV.UK

SWINDON AND WILTSHIRE YOUNG APPRENTICE AMBASSADORS

Olivia Dobson

RSM UK Tax and Accounting Limited



I work for the accounting firm RSM as a personal tax assistant and I am currently in the process of completing my Level 7 Accounting and Tax apprenticeship with BPP University. The apprenticeship is really helping me to gain knowledge and skills to use

alongside my job.

What is the SWYAAN and what do you do as an Ambassador?

As an apprenticeship ambassador I have been able to network with other apprentices and also have the opportunity to share my experience and story with young people who are considering an apprenticeship.

What advice would you give to young people who might be considering an apprenticeship?

As someone who has also completed a degree at university I would say an apprenticeship is a great way to learn new skills while working and earning money. You need to be prepared to put in a lot of work as you won't just be making the coffees. Also I would advise young people not stereotype certain industries as not offering apprenticeships – lots now do and for all ages!

EDEN WOOD,
Atkins Civil
Engineering
Consultancy

I work for Atkins a civil engineering consultancy. I am currently studying a Level 6 Degree apprenticeship in Civil engineering at the University of the West England. This apprenticeship is helping me gain new skills every day and allows me to apply my university knowledge to real projects.



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What is the SWYAAN and what do you do as an Ambassador?

As a member of SWYAAN I attend schools and colleges to give talks about my apprenticeship story. By doing this I hope to widen young people's knowledge of

apprentices and encourage them to consider all options available.



What advice would you give to young people who might be considering an apprenticeship?

Research what career paths offer apprenticeships and make sure the career suits you. Be open to learning new skills, don't disregard certain work because you don't think you're ready, try everything head on, if you get stuck your colleagues will be there to help and support you.



LAURA ROSSI,
New College
Swindon

I have graduated from a Level 3 Business Admin

Apprenticeship within the marketing department. I am now permanently employed by the College as a Marketing Assistant and am responsible for much of their digital marketing.

What is the SWYAAN and what do you do as an Ambassador?

I have had many fantastic experiences and opportunities as a member of the SWYAAN. I have joined the network's Communications team, presented at a conference, coordinated social media campaigns, attended Careers Fairs to share my apprenticeship story and met a lot of great likeminded people!

What advice would you give to young people who might be considering an apprenticeship?

My advice to somebody considering an apprenticeship is to apply for anything that you're interested in! Like jobs, apprenticeships can be competitive so don't just apply for one. Applying doesn't commit you to anything and you can even apply for a mix of universities, apprenticeships and jobs! Also, make sure you explore all of your options. You wouldn't go to a restaurant you haven't been to before and order without knowing what's on the menu, so why would you do the same with your future? Everyone's different and there are many routes and possibilities, you need to find out what's best for YOU, do your research!