



Wirral Met College

A young man with short brown hair and a light beard is wearing clear safety glasses and a high-visibility yellow and black safety vest over a dark blue long-sleeved shirt. He is looking down at a document he is holding. In the background, another person in a similar safety vest is visible, working on a construction site with concrete pillars and a ceiling. The lighting is bright, suggesting an indoor or well-lit outdoor environment.

Parents' / Guardians' Guide to Apprenticeships

Who can become an apprentice?

There are various levels of apprenticeship available meaning that you can start an apprenticeship to begin, advance or change your career.

You must be:

- Aged 16 and over
- Living in England
- Not taking part in full-time education
- Working and have a contract of employment

Benefits of Apprenticeships:

- Apprenticeship standards are high quality, nationally recognised qualifications, which provide alternatives to A Levels, BTEC qualifications and Degrees.
- Apprentices gain in-depth training and development away from the workplace in addition to learning practical skills whilst in work with the support of their peers, line manager and/or mentor.
- Apprentices can progress onto higher level qualifications whilst they work, without the need for university loans.
- Apprentices earn a wage/salary from the first day of their employment.
- Apprentices gain valuable experience which will help them progress their careers ahead of their counterparts studying A Levels and Degrees.

Apprenticeship levels

Level	Equivalent
2	5 GCSE passes at Grades A*/9 to C/4
3	2 A level passes
4 and 5	Foundation degree or HNC/D
6	Undergraduate degree
7	Postgraduate degree

How to find an apprenticeship vacancy:

- Visit Wirral Met College's website: wmc.ac.uk/apprenticeships-vacancies
- Register with the National Apprenticeship Service: <https://www.gov.uk/apply-apprenticeship>
- Use Indeed or other online recruitment websites to search for apprenticeship vacancies.

Students leaving school at the age of 16+ can join an apprenticeship in the following career paths:

Apprenticeship	Level	Recommended number of years in college before apprenticeship***
Accounts or Finance Assistant	2	Optional
Animal Care & Welfare Assistant	2	Optional
Automotive Technician	2	1
Beauty Therapist	2	
Chef or Hospitality Team Member	2	1
Construction; Bricklayer	2	1
Construction; Carpentry and Joinery	2	1
Construction; Plasterer	2	1
Construction; Installation & Maintenance Electrician	3	1-2
Construction; Gas Engineering Operative	3	1-2
Content Creator	3	Optional
Customer Service Practitioner	2	Optional
Business Administrator	3	Optional
Digital Support Technician	3	Optional
Engineering; Engineering Operative	2	1-2
Engineering; Metal Fabricator	3	1-2
Engineering; Engineering Design and Draughtsperson	3	1-2
Engineering; Manufacturing Technician	4	
Hair Professional	2 & 3	
Healthcare; Adult Care Worker**	2	2
Healthcare; Dental Nurse	3	1-2
Healthcare; Healthcare Science Assistant	2	2
HR Support*	3	
Laboratory Technician	3	1
Lead Adult Care Worker	3	

* More suited to students aged 18+

** Need to be aged 18+

*** NB you can become an apprentice without going to college first



Wirral Met College, Conway Park Campus
10 Europa Boulevard, Birkenhead CH41 4NT
tel: 0151 551 7777
wmc.ac.uk/apprenticeships
wmc.ac.uk/apprenticeships/traineeships