

# Apprenticeships

## Your Questions Answered

<b>What is an Apprenticeship?</b>	An Apprenticeship follows a national framework of vocational qualifications developed with employers. This ensures you obtain the skills and knowledge that are recognised by employers and allows you to develop transferable skills within your chosen occupational area. Apprentices work alongside experienced staff to gain job-specific skills. Training and assessment will be carried out in the workplace and may include attending Leek College on day release.
<b>What is skillsbase?</b>	Skillsbase is the part of Leek College that helps to find suitable work placements for hundreds of Apprentices across Staffordshire.
<b>How much money do I get paid?</b>	Apprentices earn a minimum of £95 per week for 30 hours work, however many Apprentices earn much more.
<b>How long are they and when do they start?</b>	They last from between 12 months to 3 years and you can start at any time of the year.
<b>What qualifications do I get?</b>	Apprenticeships offer a framework of qualifications including NVQ, Technical Certificate and Key Skills. Apprentices work towards a Level 2 NVQ and Advanced Apprentices work towards a Level 3.
<b>What are the career prospects?</b>	When you've finished you can carry on working, maybe get promoted or go on to higher education at Leek College or a university. Research shows that Apprentices earn, on average, over £100,000 more throughout their lifetime than other employees.
<b>Can anyone apply?</b>	Yes, you just need to be living in England, over 16 and not in full time education.
<b>Can I choose where I work?</b>	Yes, it's up to you to choose your employer. However skillsbase works with lots of local employers and we can help you to find a suitable placement.
<b>What are the benefits?</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Earn money</li> <li>▪ Paid holidays</li> <li>▪ Training</li> <li>▪ Qualifications</li> <li>▪ Job-specific skills</li> <li>▪ Transferable skills</li> <li>▪ Access to higher education</li> <li>▪ Employment prospects</li> </ul>