

Apprenticeships in East Sussex

Frequently Asked Questions

First Edition – September 2010

This is the first edition of the Apprenticeships in East Sussex FAQ for Connexions Personal Advisers. If you feel that there is information missing or have additional queries that you would like to see in future editions please contact:

Claire Witz

11-19 Partnership Manager: Employer & Stakeholder Engagement

East Sussex County Council

Claire.witz@eastsussex.gov.uk

Contents

Topic	Paragraph
General Apprenticeship Information	1
What are Apprenticeships?	1.1
Who can be an apprentice?	1.2
Are there any entry requirements	1.3
How much do apprentices get paid?	1.4
What are the difference types of Apprenticeships?	1.5
What are the difference levels of Apprenticeships?	1.6
Is the training funded?	1.7
How long does it take to complete an Apprenticeship?	1.8
If an apprentice changes their employer, do they have to re-start Apprenticeship?	1.9
What should an apprentice do if they're made redundant?	1.10
What employment rights do apprentices have?	1.11
How do I promote Apprenticeships to young people?	2
Benefits of being on an Apprenticeship	2.1
Career progression benefits	2.2
Is the young person ready to undertake an Apprenticeship?	3
Identifying possible issues	3.1
What are their options if they aren't ready yet?	3.2
How do I help a young person become an apprentice?	4
Apprenticeship Vacancies – an online service	4.1
Other sources of Apprenticeship vacancies	4.2
Finding the right Training Provider	4.3
Are there tips I can give to young people wanting to apply for an Apprenticeship and preparing for interviews?	4.4
What if a young person is already employed and wants to do an Apprenticeship/undertake qualifications?	4.5
Managing Young People's Expectations	5
A view of the sectors in East Sussex over the next 10 years.	5.1
Support for Apprentices	6
Horseshoath – Online mentoring	6.1
Additional Financial Support	6.2
Progression Routes	7
What progression routes are there?	7.1
How does an apprentice progress onto Higher Education?	7.2
Useful Information, Materials and Resources	8
National case studies by sector	8.1
Youtube	8.2
My Future Sussex website	8.3
And finally...	8.4

1. General Apprenticeship Information

1.1 What are Apprenticeships?

“Apprenticeships are work-based training programmes designed around the needs of employers, which lead to nationally recognised qualifications.” – *Apprenticeships website*

Apprentices are employed by a company or organisation for the duration of the Apprenticeship (and often kept on after completing their Apprenticeship). As an employee they earn a wage and work alongside experienced staff to gain job-specific skills, at the same time as undertaking training.

Apprentices receive training towards a set of qualifications called a “framework” which have been developed by Sector Skills Councils.

The majority of Apprenticeship frameworks follow a standard format that comprises:

- A National Vocational Qualification (Level 2 for Apprenticeships, Level 3 for Advanced Apprenticeships).
- Key Transferable Skills / Functional Skills
- A Technical Certificate.

A training provider (such as a college or private training provider) provides the knowledge and develops skills while the employer provides the practical experience to put those skills to the test. Training can be classroom based, in a workshop or in a workplace, depending on the subject and on the learning provider and employer.

An apprentice must be employed for a minimum of 16 hours per week.

1.2 Who can be an Apprentice?

Anyone living in England, over 16 and not in full-time education can apply to be an apprentice.

Both new and existing employees can undertake an Apprenticeship.

1.3 Are there any entry requirements?

Some Apprenticeship Frameworks may have entry requirements; these will be stipulated by the training provider and employer.

Most training providers will ask potential apprentices to undertake an initial assessment to gain information on their numeracy and literacy skills.

Also, if the learner took their GCSEs more than five years ago and didn't gain a top grade (A or A*), or they don't have A* to C GCSE grades in Maths and English they will need to take a literacy and numeracy test. This will be undertaken with the Learning Provider.

1.4 How much do Apprentices get paid?

The minimum salary is £95 a week; but at the employer's discretion the salary can be more.

However, in March 2010 the Government accepted the Low Pay Commission's recommendations for the National Minimum Wage which will come into effect from October 1st 2010.

This means that the present exemption from the National Minimum Wage for apprentices will end, and all apprentices in the United Kingdom must be paid at least £2.50 an hour.

On the basis of a full time week (37.5) this equates to £93.75.

It will become 'statutory law' (as opposed to the current 'recommendation') to pay this rate to all apprentices aged 16-18 and those aged 19 or over in the first year of their Apprenticeship.

There will be transitional arrangements in England to ensure that those current apprentices who are presently protected by the current £95 per week minimum do not receive a lower wage from the 1st October.

The new National Minimum Wage will apply to time spent in work plus any time spent on the job training or on day release for training.

Employers will be free to pay above the new National Minimum Wage. Many already do so and this change will not affect that.

There is further information on the new National Minimum Wage on the Apprenticeship website <http://www.apprenticeships.org.uk/Be-An-Apprentice/Other-Questions.aspx>

1.5 What are the different types of Apprenticeships?

There are over 190 types of Apprenticeships in many different sectors, for example business administration, engineering, retail and horticulture. For more information about the types of Apprenticeships available in England go to the Apprenticeship website link below:

<http://www.apprenticeships.org.uk/Types-of-Apprenticeships.aspx>

1.6 What are the different levels of Apprenticeships?

There are 3 types of Apprenticeships – Apprenticeships, Advanced Apprenticeships and Higher Apprenticeships

On an **Apprenticeship** the young person works towards work-based learning qualifications such as a National Vocational Qualification (NVQ) at Level 2, Key Transferable Skills and, in most cases, a relevant knowledge based qualification such as a BTEC (Technical Certificate.) These provide the skills needed for the young person's chosen career and allow entry to an Advanced Apprenticeship.

On an **Advanced Apprenticeship** the young person works towards work-based learning qualifications such as an NVQ Level 3, Key Transferable Skills and, in most cases, a relevant knowledge based certificate such as a BTEC (Technical Certificate.)

To become an Advance Apprentice the applicant should ideally have five GCSEs (grade C or above) or have completed an Apprenticeship.

On a **Higher Apprenticeship** learners work towards work-based learning qualifications such as NVQ Level 4 and, in some cases, a knowledge-based qualification such as a Foundation degree.

Most Higher Apprenticeship training costs need to be covered by the employer. The only exception is if the apprentice has participated in New Deal, then they are eligible for Apprenticeship funding.

1.7 Is the training funded?

16-18 year old apprentices' training is fully funded by the Government through the National Apprenticeship Service. This means that the apprentice's employer only has to pay their wages.

For apprentices that are 19 - 24 years old the employer is expected to pay their wages and make a 50% contribution towards their training. The size of the contribution can vary depending on the sector. The remaining 50% is paid by the Government.

The funding for the training comes from The National Apprenticeship Service and is paid directly to the organisation that provides training and support for the apprentice; in most cases this will be a college or private training provider.

1.8 How long does it take to complete an Apprenticeship?

Apprenticeships can take between one and four years to complete. This depends on the level of Apprenticeship, the apprentices' ability and the industry sector.

1.9 If an apprentice changes their employer, do they have to re-start their Apprenticeship?

No – the apprentice can continue on the same Apprenticeship programme.

If they are aged 19 and over and change employers after completing their first year, they will also be able to receive the national minimum wage.

1.10 What should an apprentice do if they are made redundant?

If an apprentice has been made redundant they should contact their training provider who will be able to provide assistance and advice on what happens next.

1.11 What employment rights do apprentices have?

Most apprentices are employed and therefore have the same rights as other employees.

There is more information regarding apprentice rights at www.worksmart.org.uk.

All employed apprentices are covered by the terms and conditions contained in their contract of employment and any relevant employment legislation. Learners will usually spend a minimum of 30 hours a week on their Apprenticeships and should receive time off to undertake any necessary study or training. Learners are entitled to their terms and conditions in writing. There should also be a contract of employment or a training agreement in place.

Employed apprentices' are entitled to join a trade union. The following link will help to find which union is relevant for which occupation sector www.worksmart.org.uk/unionfinder.

Like most other employees, apprentices should be given at least 20 days' paid holiday per year as well as bank holidays.

Apprentices are entitled to Statutory Maternity Leave of 52 weeks with Statutory Maternity Pay for up to 39 weeks.

2. How do I promote Apprenticeships to young people?

2.1 Benefits of being on an Apprenticeship

There are many benefits to being an apprentice, some of them include:

- Earning a wage whilst studying for qualifications
- Gaining new skills which will help the young person work better and more effectively
- The opportunity to experience new and different challenges
- Existing skills and knowledge are recognised and can help the participant gain a qualification faster
- All learning is at the young person's chosen pace
- There is support available from the employer, training provider and from online mentoring services (see question 7)
- Gaining skills and knowledge which can be used across a range of jobs and industries.

2.2 Career Progression Benefits

- Career progression is excellent for apprentices, and over the course of their careers, those with an Advanced Apprenticeship earn, on average, £100,000 more than those without. [A Cost-Benefit Analysis of Apprenticeships and Other Vocational Qualifications, University of Sheffield, 2007]
- Those with an Apprenticeship at Level 2 will earn on average over £73,000 more throughout their lifetime.
- These days employers are looking for people with existing skills that they won't have to spend lots of time training up – if a young person has completed an Apprenticeship they'll be able to 'hit the ground running' as they'll have skills and experience that others don't have.
- Completing an Apprenticeship can set young people up to move into new and better jobs.
- All being well, the young person will walk away with a good reference from their employer which will support them gaining new employment or promotion.

3. Is the young person ready to undertake an Apprenticeship?

3.1 Identifying possible issues

Going for that first job can be daunting and some young people may not feel ready to take that step.

If you feel that a young person has any of the following issues then they may need some further support before becoming an apprentice:

- Some Apprenticeships, such as engineering, will have entry requirements and nearly all training providers will ask potential apprentices to undertake an initial assessment. Certain young people may need further help with their literacy and numeracy skills before becoming an apprentice.
- Some young people may not have the confidence to become an apprentice and will need support to help them achieve this goal.
- If a young person has not been in education or training for some time they may require extra support to re-engage with learning.
- Young people may feel that they do not know much about “world of work” or have any experience of work based learning.
- Young parents may wish to become apprentices but don't know if there is support available or how it will affect any benefits they may receive. The link below takes you to the Teen Parents Education & Training Prospectus 09/10 . (currently being updated)
<http://www.connexions360.org.uk/healthandadvice/sex/Documents/Connexions%20young%20parents%20Prospectus%2009.pdf>. There is also information regarding benefits at 6.2 of this document.
- Young carers may want to get a job by becoming an apprentice but feel that they need to be near home and the person they care for. There is support available at Care for Carers. <http://www.cftc.org.uk/index.php?page=357>

3.2 What are their options if young people are not yet ready?

If a young person would like some further support before taking that step to becoming an apprentice there are various Foundation Learning programmes in East Sussex that can help.

Foundation Learning provides qualification at entry level 1 to level 1 in vocational areas, along with Personal and Social Development (which can include motivation and confidence building) and Functional Skills qualifications (for numeracy, literacy and ICT.)

Programmes are generally roll on - roll off so there are year round opportunities to undertake a qualification and many have employability elements to the programmes.

If you would like more information about the Foundation Learning programmes available in East Sussex please contact Claire Witz at East Sussex County Council for the Foundation Learning Directory. Claire.witz@eastsussex.gov.uk Tel: 01273 336877.

4. How do I help a young person become an apprentice?

4.1 Apprenticeship Vacancies – an online service

This is an online system whereby employers and learning providers can advertise and manage vacancies, and potential apprentices can search, apply and then manage their applications for Apprenticeships and Advanced Apprenticeships opportunities anywhere in England.

The system is free to use and available on the Apprenticeships website www.apprenticeships.org.uk

Learners can search for Apprenticeship vacancies using selected criteria, such as geography, occupation, job role and keywords. They can also save their favourite searches.

The system is designed to manage the recruitment process end to end through to the learner gaining a successful placement. Connexions PAs and training providers can help clients to manage their searches and applications.

There is a on-line support tool that you can use to help Young People find Apprenticeships using Apprenticeship Vacancies <http://www.apprenticeships.org.uk/sitecore/content/avtm/Support-Service-Partner.aspx>

Below is a simple flowchart of the process young people need to undertake to register and apply for Apprenticeship positions using the Apprenticeship Vacancies system.

Step 1. Go to www.apprenticeship.org.uk

Step 2 - Registering your details

Click on [Apprenticeship Vacancies](#) then click the 'Register now' link under the 'New User?' tab.

You will need to create your username and password (remember to keep your username and password safe.)

You'll receive a confirmation email sent to your inbox. You must click on the link in the email to activate your account within 30 days. This link opens a window to your 'MyHome' page

Step 3 - Create your 'MyHome' page

Your 'MyHome' page is your secure space and you can use it to search for Apprenticeship vacancies and save your search results. You can also log your areas of interest (e.g. business administration) and manage your applications.

Step 4 – Search for Apprenticeships matching your interests

You can search by:

- Occupation/job role
- Employer
- Keyword
- Learning provider (e.g. college)
- Location/postcode (e.g. Eastbourne)

Step 5 - Your search results

You can browse your results by clicking on any of the listed vacancies for more information. This provides detailed information about the job, the employer, training, pay and the qualifications you will be working towards.

You can save the search results, so they are easy to access at any time, or start a new search.

Step 6 – Applying for a job

Once you've found the job you'd like to apply for it's easy.

The application form is simple, secure and reusable, so you can respond to as many vacancies as you like, and save your application forms.

You can view the status of your applications and manage them online.

There are also useful handouts for learners that can be found at the following link:
<http://www.apprenticeships.org.uk/Partners/Marketing/Brochures-Leaflets/Apprentice.aspx>

4.2 Other sources of Apprenticeship vacancies

As well as the Apprenticeship Vacancies website employers do advertise through the press and websites. It is a good idea for young people to keep an eye on local papers and company websites.

As well as putting Apprenticeship opportunities on the Apprenticeship Vacancies website East Sussex County Council advertise all vacancies on their website.

4.3 Finding the right Training Provider

The Apprenticeship website has a search facility that lets you look for training providers.

You can either search by the occupation type (sector) and then the job role (framework) of the Apprenticeship, as well as the desired location or if you know the name of the training provider you can search for that.

The screenshot below was for a search done on the occupational type Business Administration and Law with the job role of Customer Service and the location being for the Eastbourne area.

The screenshot shows a web browser window displaying the 'Apprenticeship vacancies: Search for Learning Provider' page. The page features a search bar and a 'Search Results' section. The search criteria are: Business, Administration and Law, with the framework of Customer Service. The results show 16 Learning Providers in the local authority of Eastbourne, 78 in the South East region, and 74 National Providers. A table lists the following providers:

Provider	Website	Success rate in this Sector
BHTA Ltd South Road Brighton BN1 6SB	Link to Website	60%
Business Management Resources (UK) Ltd Hollinswood Road Central Park Telford TF2 9TW	Link to Website	
City College Brighton & Hove Pelham Street Brighton BN1 4FA	Link to Website	92%
Croydon College College Road Croydon CR9 1DX	Link to Website	71%
East Sussex County Council County Hall St. Annes Crescent Lewes BN7 1UE	Link to Website	85%
Hawk Management (UK) Limited London Road Twickenham TW1 3QS	Link to Website	
Hit Training Aerodrome Road Gosport PO13 0EQ	Link to Website	66%

As you can see there are 16 training providers that provide Customer Service Apprenticeship training in the Eastbourne area.

The search facility gives links to the providers websites and also gives the percentage success rate for the provision that they offer.

The website address is:

<https://apprenticeshipvacancymatchingservice.lsc.gov.uk/navms/forms/Vacancy/SearchProvider.aspx>

4.4	Are there tips I can give to young people wanting to apply for an Apprenticeship preparing for interviews?
-----	--

There are lots of tips you can give to young people who want to become an apprentice from how to get the most out of the Apprenticeships Vacancies system, writing a good application and how to make a good impression at an interview.

On the next page is information that you can print and give to young people:

Making the most of Apprenticeships Vacancies

When **registering**:

- It's important not to use "text speak"/shorthand as this information is pulled through to each job application form;
- Keep usernames and password in a safe but accessible place;
- An active email account will be needed and you will need to remember to use an appropriate email address – badgirl@email.com will be seen by a potential employer and they may not be impressed!
- A contact phone number should be included so that you can be contacted by employers to confirm job interviews or clarify information.

When **applying for and managing their applications**:

- Read the adverts carefully and be realistic - can you travel to the job if it is not local? Do you have the required skills/experience?
- Make sure you list all your qualifications including any predicted grades.
- Make sure you send the application, check that it is not in your saved area.
- Ensure that you play to your strengths in your applications. What is it that makes you unique? Why are you the best suited person to this role? Make sure you explain why you're interested in the role, and how you think you can contribute to the company.
- When answering additional questions make sure you explain your answer and give an example if you can – don't just copy the examples given on the website.
- Apply for more than 1 vacancy - 10 vacancies can be applied for at any one time.
- Use the spell checker and check grammar and punctuation.
- Think carefully about withdrawing an application as once it's withdrawn there is no way to automatically re-apply for the vacancy.
- Not all Apprenticeships will be advertised on the Apprenticeship Vacancies website. Some employers choose to advertise vacancies elsewhere, particularly in local papers – so make sure you check those too.
- You can also approach employers that you might like to work for with an application and ask if they are interested in taking you on as an Apprentice. Your Connexions PA would be able to help with the application.

Making a good impression at an Interview

The Basics - Making a good impression at an interview starts with the basics:

- Firstly and most importantly, be on time.
- Look up the address beforehand and work out how you are going to get there.
- If something happens that is beyond your control then make sure you have the phone number with you that you can ring and explain.
- If you have any forms to fill in, make sure you do so neatly and correctly
- Take along any ID or CVs that they have asked for.

Practice - Not everybody is naturally good at interviews but you can improve your interview skills by practicing:

- Ask a friend or family member to give you a mock interview and assess how well you do.
- Think about the interview questions that the employer is likely to ask and plan some answers in advance.
- Practice introducing yourself and talking about your life and interests.
- The more prepared you feel, the better equipped you will be to cope with the real thing.

Show Your Personality - Your potential employer will have seen your application and know all about you on paper, but the interview is the first time they will see your personality. Coming across well is as important an interview skill as having good answers to questions. Be friendly and open and don't try too hard as this is likely to stifle your natural personality.

What not to Wear - Just as important as what you say, is the way you present yourself:

- Think about the industry and company that you are going to and what clothes would be appropriate to wear
- It's best to be slightly smarter than too underdressed but if nobody at the company wears suits then find a presentable middle ground.

Relax - It is easier said than done but you really need to try and relax. Being too tense and nervous will mean that you don't perform to the best of your ability. By practicing your interview skills and planning answers to possible interview questions you will feel more confident. Also, on the day, take deep breaths, run through your preparation and tell yourself that you can do it.

4.5 What if the young person is already employed and wants to do an Apprenticeship/undertake qualifications?

If a young person already has a job but wants to become an apprentice and undertake qualifications they need to gain the agreement of their employer. Once they have this consent they can look for a training provider where they can complete their training:

- Search for local training providers on <http://www.apprenticeships-in-sussex.com/>
- Search the National Apprenticeship Service website for training providers <https://apprenticeshipvacancymatchingservice.lsc.gov.uk/navms/forms/Vacancy/SearchProvider.aspx>

This also applies if a young person has an employer lined up ready for an Apprenticeship.

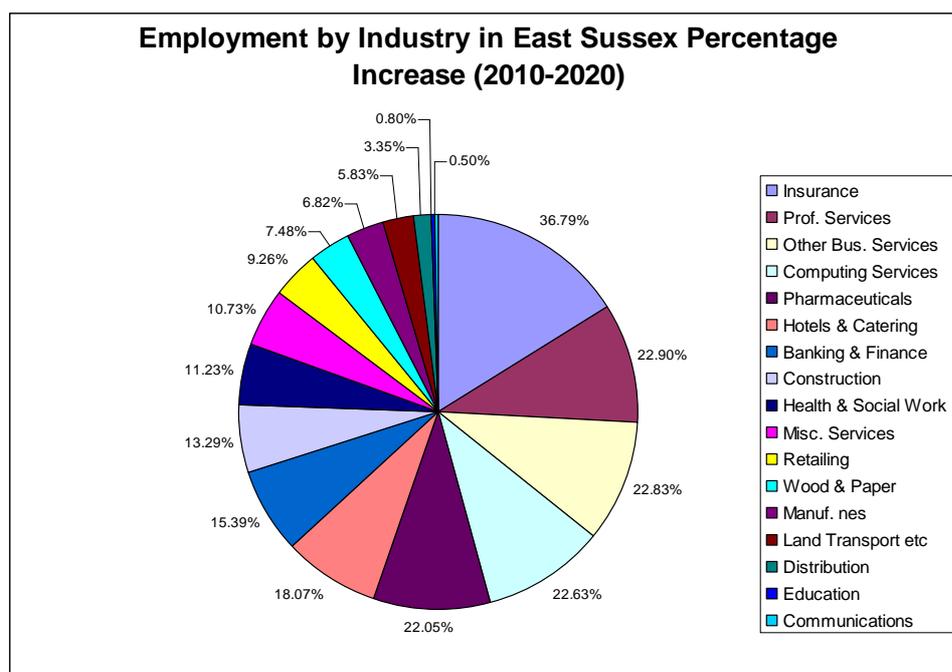
5. Managing Young People’s Expectations

5.1 A view of the sectors in East Sussex over the next 10 years.

Often young people looking to start an Apprenticeship will have an idea of the type of job they want to do.

The following information has been put together to help you advise young people on the types of jobs that are available in the East Sussex area, based on the local Labour Market Intelligence. By using this information you can help manage the young person’s expectations on what types of work they can realistically hope to obtain.

The pie chart below demonstrates the expected employment growth for the next 10 years (to 2020)



It is expected that the largest sectors for employment in East Sussex will be Insurance (36.79%); Professional Services (22.9%) which includes real estate, solicitors,

accounting, advertising and research & development; Other Business Services (22.9%) which includes security, photographic services, event/exhibition activities and cleaning services; Computer Services (22.63%). Young people will stand a better chance of gaining an Apprenticeship in these sectors rather than say in Distribution, Education or Communications.

Some examples of the Apprenticeship qualifications/frameworks available for the larger sectors in East Sussex are:

Metal and Allied:	Construction:
Engineering	Building Service Engineers
	Construction
Health & Social Care:	Electrical & Electronic Servicing
Advice & Guidance	Plumbing
Children's Care, Learning & Development	
Health & Social Care	Education:
Youth Work	Learning & Development
	Supporting Teaching & Learning in Schools
Retail:	
Hairdressing	Hotel & Catering:
Purchasing & Supply Management	Hospitality & Catering
Retail	Travel & Tourism Services

For full details of all Apprenticeship qualifications/frameworks go to the link below:
<http://www.apprenticeships.org.uk/Types-of-Apprenticeships.aspx>

6. Support for Apprentices

6.1 | Horseshmouth – Online mentoring

“We want to help make Apprenticeships happen for more people by giving them the opportunity to ask for personal and practical support in this safe online environment.” – *National Apprenticeship Service.*

Through Horseshmouth online mentoring and coaching facility Apprentices can talk to people that have ‘been there and done that’. It’s free to use, open to anyone over 16 years old and users of the site are anonymous.

There is a raft of mentors who are all current or former Apprentices and each mentor has a profile to help Apprentices decide who would be best to give them advice.

Horseshmouth provides a safe environment where all online conversations and relationships take place through a secure hosted platform and contact details can only be exchanged with the approval of a moderator.

There is further information about Horseshmouth on the Apprenticeship website
<http://www.apprenticeships.org.uk/Be-An-Apprentice/Mentoring.aspx>

The website address for Horseshmouth is <http://www.horseshmouth.co.uk/index.publisha>

6.2 | Additional Financial Support

In some limited cases, apprentices can claim additional benefits. You can find out more on benefit claims at www.dwp.gov.uk

There is also a lot of information on the Directgov website for Young People regarding money and benefits (including Care to Learn.) Go to <http://www.direct.gov.uk/en/YoungPeople/index.htm>

7. Progression Routes

7.1 | What progression routes are there?

Once the Apprentice has successfully completed their Level 2 qualification there is the opportunity to continue onto an Advanced Apprenticeship at Level 3. If a young person is interested in this progression route and they have their employers agreement, they or their employer should speak to their training provider to get the ball rolling.

There are also opportunities to carry on working, maybe get promoted, apply for new jobs that take the young person up the career ladder or go on to higher education in a college or university.

7.2 | How does an apprentice progress onto higher education?

UCAS are currently reviewing their tariff system; however the Government is committed to the introduction of UCAS tariffs for Level 3 Apprenticeships as quickly as possible.

After successfully completing an Advanced Apprenticeship there are opportunities to undertake Higher Education qualifications such as Foundation Degrees, HNC or HND. Like Apprenticeships, these qualifications are work related. Foundation degrees are innovative because they are designed and delivered in partnership with employers to equip people with the relevant knowledge and skills for business.

For more information on Higher Education see the links below:

Aimhigher Sussex assists young people to get into college and higher education by raising aspirations and supporting achievement.

They do this by working with schools, colleges, universities and a range of other partners to give students an experience of university and college life through taster activities and classes. They also support learners and give advice and guidance.

<http://www.aimhighersussex.org/>

Learning Opportunities have lots of information for anyone interested in Higher Education including general information sheets, financial support, study choices and course finders. <http://www.learning-opportunities.org.uk/>

UCAS has information about applying for university, UCAS tariffs and course choices. <http://www.ucas.co.uk/>

8. Useful Information, Materials and Resources

8.1 National Case Studies by Sector

The Apprenticeship website has a variety of case studies by sector.

Each case study tells you how the apprentice has benefited from their Apprenticeship and what they have achieved. <http://www.apprenticeships.org.uk/Be-An-Apprentice/Apprentice-Case-Studies.aspx>

8.2 YouTube

There are many videos on Youtube about Apprenticeships below are just a few.

World Class Apprenticeships – <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PpJHov-uJrM&feature=related>

Chef & Catering Apprenticeship - <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=burpGzYVFAU>

Retail Apprenticeship - <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2b0fBA7miXg&feature=channel>

Veterinary Nurse Apprenticeship - <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dSpKxAfeYz8&feature=related>

Childcare Apprenticeship - <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AOus75LHqjk&feature=Playlist&p=A3ACD9108E3B272E>

Plumbing Apprenticeship - <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BDXfWDpyfrw&feature=channel>

Mechanic Apprenticeship - <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GXqtnQYn23A&feature=related>

Hospitality Apprenticeship <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4oK19WFZSyc&feature=related>

8.3 Connexions 360 Website

General Connexions 360 information is available on their website and there is also a section designed to help young people make choices about what course(s) they wish to do.

The site has information about the choices open to young people through any of the 150 schools, colleges and training providers or through local partnerships across Sussex.

There is the option to search for courses in the local area, look at the details, find out how to apply and check the progression routes - whether that is on to another course, into higher education or into a job.

The site also provides information about careers, money and travel.

The Apprenticeship section of the website provides general information about how Apprenticeships work and links to the Apprenticeship website and Apprenticeship Vacancies.

<http://www.connexions360.org.uk/Pages/default.aspx>

8.4 | And finally...

Famous Apprentices

Many people think that apprenticeships are a fairly recent invention but they have actually been around in different forms for many years. People have always appreciated the possibility of being able to train on the job while working towards a practical qualification. To be successful you do not necessarily need a university degree but determination, hard work and commitment. If you are in doubt about whether an apprenticeship is a good idea then take some inspiration from these famous apprentices and everything they have gone on to achieve.

Jamie Oliver – he may be one of the country's most famous chefs but did you know that he started his career as an apprentice? Growing up in his Dad's pub he knew that he wanted to work in food and after going to catering college, started his apprenticeship learning hard in the pub's kitchens. He trained under some great chefs and soon went on to write cookbooks, have his own TV shows and open his own restaurants. Jamie now offers numerous catering apprenticeships to young people through his restaurant Fifteen.

Ruth Badger - is best known for being runner up in the second series of The Apprentice and going on to become a successful businesswoman. However, most people don't realise that she was actually a real life apprentice when she left school. She says that she was never great academically and that the apprenticeship she took in business administration when she was 16 put her on track for a successful career. Now running her own business, Ruth says she plans to take on her own apprentices to give another generation the same chance.

John Frieda - You've probably bought some of his hair products or at least seen him doing his magic on TV. The celebrity hairdresser John Frieda started off his hugely successful career as an apprentice. John's father was also a hairdresser and when John left school he started training in the salon. Through hard work, talent and a few lucky breaks, John Frieda has worked his way up to cut the hair of some of the country's hottest stars.

Alexander McQueen - This famous fashion designer left school at sixteen and started an apprenticeship with a top Saville row tailor. He worked for some of the top names in fashion before furthering his education at Central St Martin's School of Art and Design. After graduating his career went from strength to strength and he was one of youngest people ever to win the title British Designer of the Year.

It's always interesting to learn who started out on the same path as you and where it took them and if they can do it then so can you. Taking an apprenticeship is only the beginning of your career and the possibilities afterwards are endless. Use your time to learn as much as you can and channel it into your future. Aim high and with a little bit of hard work, focus and determination you might one day be on the list of famous apprentices.

Source: "An Apprenticeship" website.

To download a copy of the Apprenticeships in East Sussex - Frequently Asked Questions or to find out more information about the East Sussex14-19 Strategy please visit Czone:
<https://czone.eastsussex.gov.uk/partnerships/14-19>