

Parent and carer frequently asked questions and links to useful information

How to use this resource

There is no expectation for you to hold extensive knowledge about Apprenticeship and Technical Education. The answers to frequently asked questions about Apprenticeship and Technical Education, posed by parents and carers, are included here for ease. These can be used to deal with parent and carer queries as you have conversations with them in person or by email. They can be used to provide follow up information in an email to a parent or carer, saving research time and assurance that the sources of information shared are reputable and parent and carer focused. This resource could also be useful in the creation of other resources and activities such as quizzes, fact sheets and newsletters.



What kinds of apprenticeships and other technical qualifications are available?

There are a wide range of apprenticeships and other technical qualifications available at different levels and within lots of different sectors. You can explore these here:

Apprenticeships: <https://www.apprenticeships.gov.uk/apprentices/about-apprenticeships>

T-Levels: <https://tlevelinfo.org.uk/>

HTQs: <https://www.amazingapprenticeships.com/resources/parents-and-carers-guide-to-htqs/>



How much do apprentices get paid?

There is a minimum wage for apprentices, which differs depending on age. The current rates can be found here: <https://checkyourpay.campaign.gov.uk/are-you-an-apprentice/>. Pay can vary between apprenticeship levels, sectors, regions and employers with the higher level apprenticeships often offering considerably higher salaries.



If my child does an apprenticeship, how could it affect our household income?

You could be better off. There are a number of factors that can affect your entitlement and everyone's situation is different. It is important to seek advice and support with a [better off in work calculation](https://advicelocal.uk/find-an-adviser) and guidance around transition to work. Find your local benefits adviser here: <https://advicelocal.uk/find-an-adviser>.



How far can my child progress with an apprenticeship?

Apprenticeships range from level 2 (GCSE level) up to levels 6 and 7 (bachelor's or master's degree level). They can be completed 'stand-alone' or used as a progression pathway, step-by-step, to higher level qualifications and more specialist areas of work. Find out more here: <https://www.apprenticeships.gov.uk/apprentices/about-apprenticeships>



How do I help my child prepare for an apprenticeship?

You can find some guidance about preparing for apprenticeships here: <https://amazingapprenticeships.com/app/uploads/2022/01/Apprenticeship-Hints-Tips-for-Parents-Carers-1.pdf> . Watch this short film series to hear some insights and advice from employers, parents and carers, teachers and young people: [link to films 3, 4-6]



Where can we find apprenticeship vacancies?

You can find apprenticeship vacancies on the gov.uk website: <https://www.findapprenticeship.service.gov.uk/apprenticeshipsearch/> <https://www.apprenticeships.gov.uk/apprentices/browse-apprenticeships> and on employer websites. There may also be specific websites serving different regions.



What are HTQ's?

Higher technical qualifications (HTQs) are level 4 or 5 (the same level as the first or first two years of a degree) post 18 courses. Approved HTQs have been developed in partnership with employers and will hold the HTQ quality mark:

- higher national diplomas
- higher national certificates
- foundation degrees
- higher education diplomas



They are available, or planned, in a wide range of sectors from health and science to catering and hospitality and are approved by employers. Whilst they are stand- alone qualifications, which means you could start straight away, many also provide pathways to level 6 (full degree level) qualifications. Find out more at:

<https://www.amazingapprenticeships.com/resources/parents-and-carers-guide-to-htqs/>



Do you get paid whilst completing an HTQ?

Most universities and colleges charge a tuition fee. You may be eligible for funding from student finance: <https://www.ucas.com/sfe> . It's available for full time and part time courses. The amount you could get will depend on your circumstances and the type of HTQ you're studying.



How can I find and apply for an HTQ?

You can contact a local university, college or training provider directly or use UCAS to search and apply for [HTQ courses](#).



Where can I find more information about apprenticeships, T levels and higher technical qualifications (HTQs)?

You can find out more at:

Apprenticeships: <https://www.apprenticeships.gov.uk/apprentices/about-apprenticeships>

T-Levels: <https://tlevelinfo.org.uk/>

HTQs: <https://www.amazingapprenticeships.com/resources/parents-and-carers-guide-to-htqs/>



How do we know if a technical education pathway is right for our child?

Your child can access impartial careers information, advice and guidance through your school/college or the National Careers Service: <https://nationalcareers.service.gov.uk/contact-us>. You can also speak to the Career Leader to find out more about the support available.



How do I talk to my child about careers/apprenticeships/technical education?

There are lots of ideas on the Talking Futures website: [Parents Advice for Career Conversations - Talking Futures](#)



Where can I study T-Levels?

A number of schools and colleges offer T-Levels. Find your nearest delivery provider here: <https://www.tlevels.gov.uk/students/find>



What are the options after T-Levels?

There are a range of options after T-Levels including university, apprenticeships and employment. You can find out more about the options after T-Levels here: <https://www.tlevels.gov.uk/students/parents/> <https://tlevelinfo.org.uk/success-stories/>

Information for parents and carers

Career conversations

Talking Futures: <https://www.talkingfutures.org.uk/>

Options

Post 16 options: <https://www.talkingfutures.org.uk/pathways-at-16/>

Post 18 options: <https://www.talkingfutures.org.uk/pathways-at-18/>

Apprenticeships

Amazing apprenticeships (parent zone): <https://amazingapprenticeships.com/parent-zone/>

Apprenticeships.gov.uk: <https://www.apprenticeships.gov.uk/influencers/suppInspire and Influence>

T-Levels

T-LEVELS (resources for parents and carers): <https://www.tlevels.gov.uk/students/parents>

T-Levels information for parents: <https://tlevelinfo.org.uk/>

Higher technical qualifications (HTQ)

Amazing apprenticeships (parent leaflet):

<https://amazingapprenticeships.com/app/uploads/2024/04/HTQ-Parent-leaflet.pdf>