

Apprenticeship vacancies



Stakeholders Newsletter Feb 2010 - Issue 002

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We hope you find the information useful.

Debbie, Maria and Colleen - The Angels

Your Apprenticeship vacancies Coordinators in the South West.

South West Data

Registered Employers	1,672
Employers with Live Adverts	316
Registered Candidates	18,227 of which: 6,872 are 16-18
Applications made	6,487 applications
Successful Candidates	567
Live Vacancies (inc. NES)	4,432
Live Vacancies (exc. NES)	595

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Apprenticeship Week proves to be a huge success!

Apprenticeship Week 2010



Well, National Apprenticeship Week has now passed for another year and this year was more successful than ever. The National Apprenticeship Service would like to thank all of the employers, apprentices, partners and providers who got involved in Apprenticeship Week 2010 to make it such a success.

The week was designed to bring to life positive messages on Apprenticeships, engage employers on the benefits, to raise the profile and highlight the number and range of Apprenticeships available. These messages ran strongly throughout the 200 events and activities that were held across the country, and in many of the 500 pieces of broadcast, print and online coverage that ran over Apprenticeship Week. We loved reading many of the stories from around the country of the brilliant events which took place, the great career and advice sessions and the fascinating back to the floor experiences.

The number of hits to the website were up from an average of around 60,000 a week to over 100,000 and contacts from employers were nearly four times higher than average - a fantastic response. We are now speaking to all those employers who contacted us and get them on the road to offering Apprenticeships.

During Apprenticeship Week we also saw a rise in young people signing up to Apprenticeship vacancies to start their careers. The great news for those signing up who are aged 16 or 17 is that the promotion of the Apprenticeship Grant for Employers (AGE 16 and 17) has gone well and we already have employers signed up and looking for their new Apprentices.

Detail of events that took place in the South West

There was a wealth of activities running up and down the region to celebrate the value of Apprenticeships from Award Ceremonies to careers fairs and lots of apprentices getting involved in voluntary work in their local community from varnishing floors of scout huts to delivering custom-built boats to the charity Streetwise.

The South West Ambassador Network launched with a lunch cooked by apprentices in Bournemouth and Poole College. These gave an opportunity for our ambassadors to talk about how Apprenticeships have benefited their organisation to a number of local employers. On Thursday an inspirational event was held in Bristol to launch the Edge Learner Forum which highlighted the positive impact of Apprenticeships on apprentices and their managers.

Finally the week was closed in Gloucester with over 100 employers attending an event hosted by the National Apprenticeship Service, Gloucestershire County Council and the South West Apprenticeship Company. And four lucky apprentices from Exeter had the opportunity to meet with the Prime Minister and his cabinet, when they visited the region on Friday.

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Apprenticeship vacancies Software upgrade Release 4

Release 4 of Apprenticeship vacancies is being launched during March 2010.

Full documentation regarding all the changes will be available very soon but here is a quick look at the major areas we have enhanced in the system based on feedback from our users.

Details on our commitment to making Apprenticeship vacancies a truly accessible system for everyone.

1. We have always had a strong commitment to accessibility for the Apprenticeship vacancies website but we have gone even further and have enhanced the system to be AA compliant, which is the accepted Government standard to aim for in citizen engagement
2. We are also implementing some planned security enhancements to ensure we provide good data protection to our user's personal information; this includes the ability for a candidate to remove their account details
3. The branding of the system has been updated with a much greater emphasis on NAS as the MOG changes take place
4. For learning providers we have added a new text editor for creating rich content on vacancies. This will enable providers to insert bullet points, embolden and italicise text within specific vacancy fields to provide a better visual experience, this also follows through into a better and larger print layout of the vacancy
5. Improvements to the vacancy ladder will allow efficient management of larger number of applications and because of this we have been able to allow national vacancies to be applied for using the system
6. The process of completing a vacancy has also been improved to help learning providers record more accurate success results and aid the efficient management
7. We have introduced new functionality to enable secure transfer of applicant's details between learning providers and employers they are working with
8. Higher Level Apprenticeships can now be advertised on Apprenticeship vacancies. Learning providers can also indicate this provision in their profiles along with enhancements to how the provider offer is displayed. There is also the ability to indicate if they are delivering Apprenticeships in a NEW sector
9. The tools and procedures for supporting unsuccessful candidates have been changed and now provide an easier way to share information with other agencies
10. We have also enhanced the administration features of the system so that we have more flexibility to change system wide parameters such as

the minimum wage, terms and conditions and management of employers and stakeholders.

For further information please contact your SW Apprenticeship vacancies team

Hints and Tips Archive

Strategic Partner access to Apprenticeship vacancies

The registration process for Strategic Partners is similar to that for candidates.

Access is through:

<http://www.apprenticeships.org.uk/Partners.aspx>

Click the Partners tab hyper link below to create your registration

<http://www.apprenticeships.org.uk/Partners/Connexions-JCP-Nextstep-Access-to-VMS.aspx>

New E-mail address for Apprenticeship vacancies - General Questions/Queries & Support

As you are aware, the LSC ceases operations from 31st March 2010 therefore it has been necessary to change our SWAVMS email address.

The new e-mail address with immediate effect

SWvacancies@apprenticeships.gov.uk

There will be a transitional period for when both e-mail addresses will be valid

The Support Team

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If you have any news, comments or suggestions for the next edition please

forward them to SWvacancies@apprenticeships.gov.uk