

January 2024

Dear High Storrs Families,

National Apprenticeship Week 2024 is 5 – 11 February. Across the week there will be a number of activities shared with students to highlight and promote apprenticeships as a route for career progression: apprenticeships lead to qualifications that are equivalent to GCSEs, A Levels and degrees. This week's Group Chat, delivered by form tutors, introduces National Apprenticeship Week and provides key information about apprenticeships as both a Post 16 and a Post 18 option for students.

We would also like to signpost families to material that may also support your own knowledge and understanding of this ever-expanding pathway and recommend having a look at the following resources as a starting point:

- **Fact Sheet** – 'A parent's guide to apprenticeships' provides a useful one page summary about apprenticeships: <https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/media/5b07bbce40f0b60fa99a91e3/Parent-Guide-Apprenticeships.pdf>
- **Website** – UCAS publish increasing amounts of information about apprenticeships, including this Parent and Guardian Guide: <https://www.ucas.com/apprenticeships/parent-and-guardian-guide-apprenticeships>
- **Podcast** – 'The Parent Perspective' is a podcast series for parents and carers who want to support their children with careers advice and guidance. More information can be found at: <http://amazingapprenticeships.com/the-parent-perspective-podcast/>
- **Rapid Reads** are a set of guides which explain a wealth of career information ranging from 'What is a degree apprenticeship?' through to 'What are traineeships?' and 'What are T Levels?' As a starting point, this Rapid Read on Apprenticeship Myths is a great read: <https://amazingapprenticeships.com/app/uploads/2024/01/Mythbuster-Rapid-Read.pdf>. All Rapid Reads can be found at: <https://amazingapprenticeships.com/resources/>
- **Vacancies** – UCAS is one source to view national and local apprenticeship vacancies, which can help you to get a sense of what roles are out there: <https://careerfinder.ucas.com/jobs/apprenticeship/sheffield/> We would recommend checking this website regularly (or setting up an email alert) as there will be more vacancies as the academic year progresses.

At the time of writing this letter, there are 2258 apprenticeship vacancies nationally, with 28 adverts in South Yorkshire and 19 in Sheffield. Although apprenticeship recruitment works in the same way as job recruitment (i.e. advertised when a role is needed), there is a spike in roles advertised towards the end of the academic year when students are completing their GCSEs, A Levels or equivalents.

The Careers Team at High Storrs are keen to hear from parents who feel they could offer an insight into their particular industry or career, especially if you could share employer or employee insight about technical or vocational routes (such as apprenticeships). If you would be happy to come into High Storrs to share your insight with our students please do get in touch with the Careers Team: careers@highstorrs-mlt.co.uk

Yours faithfully,



Laura Newell

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