

WHO CAN YOU CONTACT FOR MORE HE INFORMATION?

AIMHIGHER

For advice on higher education visit www.aimhigher.ac.uk
(This website directs you to the direct gov University and Higher Education webpage).

UNIVERSITIES / COLLEGES

HE courses are offered at around 130 Universities & HE / further education Colleges. For course details visit www.direct.gov.uk/uni

UCAS

A central organisation for managing applications to UK HE courses. For course search facility visit www.ucas.ac.uk

CONNEXIONS

For advice on education, careers, housing, money for 13-19 year olds visit www.connexionsdirect.com/jobs4u

FINANCE

Information on financial support for further and higher education. For the online application service visit www.direct.gov.uk/studentfinance

TEES VALLEY LEARNING PROVIDER NETWORK

For advice on education and training across Tees Valley visit www.tvwbl.net

FOUNDATION DEGREE / FOUNDATION DEGREE FORWARD

Users can search for a foundation degree course by subject area/ region, for HE student support visit www.findfoundationdegree.co.uk or www.fdf.ac.uk

DIUS STUDENT SUPPORT

HE student support visit www.dius.gov.uk/student-support

APPRENTICESHIPS

Information on apprenticeship programmes visit www.apprenticeships.org.uk

CAREER DEVELOPMENT LOANS

Information on further financial support visit www.lifelonglearning.co.uk/cdl

LEARNING PROVIDER

Speak to your Learning Provider for further information, advice and guidance or visit www.lsc/publications



TEES VALLEY
LEARNING PROVIDER NETWORK

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www.tvwbl.net



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aimhigher...
Tees Valley



**APPRENTICESHIPS TO HIGHER EDUCATION
EMPLOYERS GUIDE**

EMPLOYER GUIDE - APPRENTICESHIP TO HIGHER EDUCATION

The aim of this leaflet is to raise awareness of how higher skills and education can help develop your business and allow you to build a workforce that is highly skilled, knowledgeable, flexible and dynamic.

BENEFITS OF TRAINING YOUR WORKFORCE

- **Higher productivity**
- **Stronger career progression**
- **Improved quality**
- **Higher staff retention**
- **Cost effective recruitment**
- **A well trained motivated workforce**
- **Increased competitive edge**

Investing in an Apprentice will have enabled you as an employer to mould your staff in a way that has had a positive benefit to your company and has given the young person the skills and positive attitude that can only be gained within the workplace.

On completion of an Advanced Apprenticeship (Level 3) an employer can benefit further from progressing their staff onto Higher Education. Higher Education is any qualification that is graded at level 4 or above. Some Employers think that the only route to a Degree is for their employee to go on a full time university course but there are alternative methods. NVQ level 4, HND or Foundation Degrees are available in many occupational sectors and can be accessed on a half day, full day release or a variety of courses are offered on evenings. Distance and flexible learning packages are two other options open to learners who wish to combine further training with employment.

WHY SHOULD AN EMPLOYER SUPPORT AN APPRENTICE INTO ACQUIRING HIGHER EDUCATION SKILLS?

- They will be gaining immediate transferable skills and knowledge that can be used to improve efficiency, productivity and to make the business more competitive.
- Your staff will gain an added maturity through self motivated study, self discipline and independence.
- Your staff will become more motivated and committed stakeholders in the business.
- If you equip your staff with higher-level skills your organisation will be better placed to respond to the need for succession planning.

WHAT IS HIGHER EDUCATION?

Higher Education (HE) is any qualification that is graded at level 4 or above. Most people think that the only route to a Degree is by going on a full time university course but there are alternative methods. The vocational route to higher education has never been easier with a great number of part-time higher level courses available.

Level	Qualifications relating to Level	Sector
Level 1	GCSE grades D-G Foundation level qualifications NVQ 1 Foundation Diploma	Further Education (commonly delivered by colleges and work based learning providers)
Level 2	GCSE grades A*-C Apprenticeship NVQ 2 BTEC First Diploma Higher Diploma	
Level 3	Advanced Apprenticeship NVQ 3 A Levels (including Vocational A Levels) Advanced and Progression Diplomas BTEC National Certificate and Diploma	
Level 4	NVQ 4 Higher National Certificate	Higher Education (commonly delivered in universities and colleges)
Level 5	Higher National Diplomas NVQ 5 Foundation Degree	
Level 6	Honours Degree	
Level 7	Masters Degrees Postgraduate Certificates and Diplomas	
Level 8	Doctoral Degrees	