

# Develop your child's career potential

A parents' guide to data, digital  
and tech apprenticeships






June 2024



## We are QA

Apprenticeships England

### The UK's leading tech skills provider

-  Included in the Top 50 Training Providers from 2019 to 2024
-  70% of our apprentices feel more confident and better prepared for work life than most people their age
-  Awarded Grade 2 'Good' by Ofsted
-  90% of QA apprentices went straight into fulltime jobs after completing their apprenticeships
-  Award-winning learning system which combines cutting edge technology, engaging content, compelling design, and on-demand tutor support

## We specialise in data, digital and tech

Discover your potential in the data, digital and tech industries with a QA apprenticeship, mastering the skills that employers are seeking today. With an apprenticeship, you can earn while you learn and access a world of possibilities.

Our programmes offer apprenticeships and degree apprenticeships that focus on the most sought after tech skills, ranging from Level 3 all the way to Level 7 (Master's Degree).

## Apprenticeship myths debunked

**Apprenticeships are for those who don't do well at school.**

- ✓ Apprenticeships are simply an alternative route into skilled employment.
- ✓ Some tech employers prefer apprenticeships as the industry evolves quickly.

**Apprentices don't earn very much money.**

- ✓ Apprenticeships pay at the very least the apprenticeship minimum wage (£6.40 per hour for 16–18-year olds; and those aged 19 or over and in their first year; and £11.44 per hour for those aged 19 or over and have completed their first year).
- ✓ QAs apprenticeship vacancies pay on average between £14,000 and £18,000, with some starting as high as £18,000 to £25,000 and are often increased after the first year of training.
- ✓ The average size of student debt post degree is £18,000 to £20,000 in Scotland.

**You need to be good at maths and science and computer studies to consider a career in technology.**


- ✓ Most employers are looking for a passion for tech, and a willingness to learn.







## What is an apprenticeship and how does it work?

Get a head-start in the world of work

 An apprenticeship is a modern, hands-on way to train for an exciting new career in tech.

 It's a paid full-time job - the apprentice will work with an employer, have a line manager, take home a salary at the end of the month and have access to employee benefits.

 They'll have a structured training programme with QA, an industry recognised qualification, a personal tutor and a dedicated team member through every step in the process from application to job offer and first day at work.

### 01

Application stage. Your child uploads their CV to one of the many new opportunities added every month.

### 02

If they are a good match good match, a career adviser calls, and helps create a personal profile.

### 03

There is lots of support all the way. From profile preparation to interview readiness.

### 04




Yes! The job offer is in and the apprenticeship confirmed.

## Apprentices are supported every step of the way

### Coach Support

- Hourly 1:1 coaching sessions, every 6 weeks
- Guidance sessions on application of learning, objective setting and stretch learning
- Timely, marking and feedback on submissions and portfolio

### Digital Learning Team

-  Multiple coaches. Real time instant support
-  First time assignment submission 24 hours
-  Response to a query within 4 hours

## Apprenticeship training designed around you



Our award-winning approach to training is based on the principles of Discover, Practice, Apply, a flexible three step process which enables every apprentice to learn at their own pace, in their own time, with individual support every step of the way.



Your child is assigned a dedicated skills coach with hourly one to one sessions every six weeks. Coaching and guidance sessions for course topics are delivered by expert tutors and your child has access to all the online learning needed to complete their apprenticeship training on time.



In addition, the digital learning team offer instant learning support and respond to 75% of queries within a minute, via online chat.

Feedback on assignments and submissions is timely and there are regular check-ins to ensure all is well.



As a result, QA apprentices are more engaged, gain skills quicker and 97% of all learners complete their training on time, or ahead of time.

# Apprenticeship programmes

You'll need 5 GCSEs at Grade C/4 or above – 2 of which must be Maths & English at Grade D/3 or above.

## Level 3

### Azure Cloud Support Specialist

Learn how to solve problems and get to the root of issues, using Azure Cloud software.

#### Future job prospects:

- IT Infrastructure Technician
- Desktop Support Engineer

### Cloud Network Specialist

Specialising in cloud, you'll help solve problems, fix issues and help people to use technology well within a professional environment.

#### Future job prospects:

- First or Second line Helpdesk Support
- Technical Support Analyst

### Junior Developer

Learn to build and test software applications on the web, mobile or desktop using coding knowledge.

#### Future job prospects:

- Junior App Developer
- Junior Programmer
- Junior Software Developer

### Multi-Channel Marketer

Learn how to harness your creative skills to influence customer's behaviour.

#### Future job prospects:

- Digital Marketing Technologist
- Social Media Executive
- Content Coordinator
- Digital Marketing Executive

### Data Essentials

Learn how to source, format and present data securely, analyse structured and unstructured data to support business outcomes, and how to apply legal and ethical principles when manipulating data.

#### Future job prospects:

- Data Technician
- Junior Data Analyst
- Data Support Analyst
- Junior Information Analyst

### AWS Cloud Support Specialist

Specialise in the fundamentals of cloud computing and gain the practical skills needed to perform your day-to-day duties as an IT support specialist.

#### Future job prospects:

- Cloud Technician
- Help Desk Support
- IT Support Analyst
- Data Centre Support Technician
- Cyber/Security Support



You'll need a Level 3 IT Apprenticeship or an A-level in a STEM subject (plus successful completion of our Aptitude test) or a BTEC Diploma in a STEM subject (plus successful completion of our Aptitude test).

## Level 4

### DevOps Engineer

Learn how to accelerate and simplify development cycles by combining the practices of software development and technical operations.

#### Future job prospects:

- Automation Engineer
- Platform Engineer
- Infrastructure Engineer

### Data Analyst

Learn how to collect, organise and study raw data and translate it into understandable language..

#### Future job prospects:

- Data Manager
- Data Scientist
- Data Engineer

### Network Engineer

Learn how to design, install and maintain communication networks.

#### Future job prospects:

- Network Designer
- Network Technician
- Systems Engineer

### Cyber Security Engineer

Learn how to fight cybercrime, protect systems and use logic to keep ahead of cyber criminals.

#### Future job prospects:

- Information Security Officer
- Cyber Operations Manager
- Information Security Architect

### Cyber Risk Analyst

Gain the skills and knowledge to safeguard systems, information, personal data and people from attacks and unauthorised access.

#### Future job prospects:

- Cyber Security Analyst
- Cyber Risk Analyst
- Intelligence Researcher
- Cyber Security Specialist
- Governance & Compliance Analyst

### Business Analyst

Learn how to analyse data and investigate information systems solutions in order to find trends, answer questions, and draw conclusions to improve operational efficiency.

#### Future job prospects:

- Business Architect
- Business Systems Analyst
- Enterprise Analyst
- Management Consultant
- Process Analyst

### Cyber Defender and Responder

Learn how to use investigation techniques and analytics skills to defend against and respond to cyber incidents within the network environment.

#### Future job prospects:

- Cyber Security Analyst
- Forensics & Incident Response Analyst
- Incident Response Centre (IRC) Analyst
- Network Operations Centre (NOC) Security Analyst

### Digital Product Manager

Understand the user experience and design process, run research and discovery to develop products that deliver, and learn how to measure and improve the success of products.

#### Future job prospects:

- Digital Product Manager Associate
- Junior Product Manager

## Level 5

### Data Engineer

Learn how to skilfully architect, administer, and transform data into actionable insights tailored for consumption by Data Scientists, Data Analysts and Business Intelligence professionals.

#### Future job prospects:

- Automation Engineer
- Platform Engineer
- Infrastructure Engineer

## Degree apprenticeship programmes

### BSc (Hons) Digital and Technology Solutions Degree

Take your tech skills and knowledge to the next level by specialising in 1 of the following 4 areas: Network Engineer, Software Engineer, IT Consultant or Data Analyst.

#### Future job prospects:

- IT Consultant
- IT Project Manager
- Systems Designer
- Database Specialist

## Masters and higher apprenticeship programmes

### Artificial Intelligence Data Specialist

Develop a deep technical knowledge that allows you to discover and create new data-driven AI solutions.

#### Future job prospects:

- AI Engineer
- AI Specialist
- Director AI
- Machine Learning Engineer
- Machine Learning Specialist

### MSc Digital and Technology Specialist

Designed for those wishing to enhance their career through engaging in a work based learning programme and developing an understanding of Computing, IT and Digital Technology.

#### Future job prospects:

You will choose a specialist pathway to follow in areas including:

- Software Engineering
- Data & Analytics
- Enterprise Architecture
- Cyber Security
- IT Ops Management (Cloud Computing)
- IT/Digital Futures (DevOps)



## Our apprentice trailblazers



### Nodiya Amaeze

Data Analytics Apprentice  
**Natwest**

"Originally I was trying to get into med school but couldn't garner enough funding. I had heard about apprenticeships in school before so I thought I should give that a try.

Now, I'm getting paid to learn something I love to do and I really do feel I could become anything and that the sky's the limit. I think apprenticeships are inclusive, flexible and challenging."



### Lucy Hanman

Digital & Technology Solutions Degree Apprentice  
**AtkinsRealis**

"I've always been interested in technology and the processes behind conceiving, creating, and distributing technology, and felt this programme was a right fit for me. This isn't my first apprenticeship, as I was fortunate enough to complete two apprenticeships in Business Administration beforehand. Undertaking these gave me an appreciation into the value of apprenticeships and how it can help a business to thrive.

The programme has impacted my life so far and I feel a sense of pride when I am able to add value to a project through the information taught by the programme. Moreover, since starting the programme my confidence has come on leaps and bounds, and whereas I used to be very nervous when performing public speaking, this now comes to me with ease."



### Oliver Cooney-Allen

Software Development Apprentice  
**Deutsche Bank**

"I have always had an interest in computer science and becoming a software developer, so this programme has given me a fantastic opportunity to get real world working experience and regular training in this field. For me, to be working in an office, alongside senior software developers, absorbing knowledge on a daily basis has been crucial for my own development.

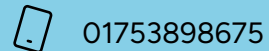
In reflection, looking back, since I joined the programme I recognise the clear changes in confidence, maturity, knowledge and overall personal development."

# Choose from hundreds of employers

From edgy start-ups and medium-sized enterprises to big household names...



## Want to find out more?



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[qa.com/apprenticeships/become-an-apprentice](http://qa.com/apprenticeships/become-an-apprentice)