



# Apprenticeships, Jobs and new opportunities at **THE VERY FIRST** Blyth Valley Apprenticeship Fair

Some of the UK and North East's biggest companies are coming to your local area on Friday 1st July for the first ever Blyth Valley Apprenticeship Fair, held in collaboration with the Department for Work and Pensions, and Northumberland County Council.

The event brings together dozens of organisations, from hospitality and retail to manufacturing and transport, each offering apprenticeship, jobs and employment opportunities.

The event, hosted by the Purpose Coalition alongside Ian Levy MP and bp, will be an opportunity to learn more about the opportunities employers have available, with regular talks from key local employers throughout the day, and help on hand from Reed in Partnership and the DWP with CV writing to support applicants in their first steps to apply for new opportunities. Some employers will even be carrying out interviews on the day!



Northumberland County Councillor Paul Ezhilchelvan and Ian Levy MP are supporting the event.



**Blyth Valley  
Apprenticeship Fair:**  
Friday 1st July  
Cramlington Hub  
and Concordia  
10am - 4pm

**OPEN TO EVERYONE**

Speaking ahead of the event, **Blyth Valley MP Ian Levy said:** "This Apprenticeship Fair is really important to showcase the many opportunities available to young people as we look to get the region's economy back up and running. I am delighted that so many employers have signed up to attend and look forward to helping local residents find their perfect apprenticeship. My thanks to the Purpose Coalition and bp for bringing this event to Blyth, and to Lesley Knighting and her team for their invaluable help in making this Blyth Valley Apprenticeship Fair possible."

Local schools have been invited along and the event will be open to local residents who are searching for their perfect apprenticeship. Paul Ezhilchelvan, County Councillor for Cramlington South East said "This is the first time Blyth Valley has held an apprenticeship fair and is it going to be a great event for Cramlington residents"

So, if you're looking for an apprenticeship, or would like to know more about the opportunities on offer - come along to the Blyth Valley Apprenticeship Fair!

**We look forward to welcoming you on 1st July to both the Cramlington Hub and Concordia, Forum Way, Manor Walks Shopping Centre, Cramlington NE23 6YB from 10am to 4pm.**

## Backing apprenticeships and jobs

The Department for Work and Pensions are backing the Blyth Valley Apprenticeship Fair in Cramlington on 1st July! With vast experience working with job seekers of all backgrounds, skills and qualifications, their support will be invaluable for job seekers and employers alike.

Lesley and her team from across the North East will be on hand to give employers and job seekers the support they need, and promote the vast number of apprenticeships on offer.

If you are currently unemployed and if in receipt of benefits you can contact your Work Coach for more information, and if you can't attend, visit [www.gov.uk/apply-apprenticeship](http://www.gov.uk/apply-apprenticeship) to find out more about apprenticeships on offer in your local area.

## How do apprenticeships work?

Apprenticeships combine practical training in a job with study.

### As an apprentice you'll:

- › be an employee earning a wage and getting holiday pay
- › work alongside experienced staff
- › gain job-specific skills
- › get time for study/training (at least 20% of your normal hours)
- › Apprenticeships take 1 to 5 years to complete depending on their level.

## Who can start an Apprenticeship?

- › To start an Apprenticeship, you will need to be:
- › 16 or over
- › Living in England
- › Not in full time education
- › You can apply for an apprenticeship while you're still at school, but you will need to be 16 or over by the end of the summer holidays to start the apprenticeship.

## What you'll get

### As an apprentice, you'll get:

- › Paid and entitled to the National Minimum Wage (NMW) for an Apprentice (Aged 16 to 18 is £4.30 per hour, aged 19 or over and in your first year is £4.30 per hour. Aged 19 or over and completed your first year you're entitled to the NWM or National Living wage rate. Some Employer can and do pay more than this NMW.
- › Time for training or study as part of your apprenticeship
- › Holiday pay and other employee rights



## Levels of Apprenticeship

Apprenticeships have equivalent education Levels:

	Level	Equivalent education level
<b>Intermediate</b>	2	GCSE
<b>Advanced</b>	3	A Level
<b>Higher</b>	4,5,6 and 7	Foundation degree and above
<b>Degree</b>	6 and 7	Bachelor's or master's degree

## Jobseekers – What will help me on the day of the event

- › Prepare your CV and bring a copy along as some employers may ask for this Digitally or a paper version
- › Be prepared to talk to employers and ask questions
- › Be prepared to talk to the providers offering support on CV's, application forms and interview preparation
- › Set aside the full 1-hour timeslot and make use of this time
- › Think about your previous jobs or roles and how these are transferable and be prepared to talk about any experiences you may have
- › Think about your body language, eye contact and dress appropriately

## Jobcentre Plus help for Employers:

### Jobcentre Plus has a range of services:

- › Recruitment advice including specialist support for your business (sifting CV's, interviewing along side you or on your behalf plus many more options)
- › Help with setting up work Trials – to give you the opportunity to try out potential recruits
- › Advice about offering Work experience and apprenticeships
- › Support from other employment schemes including sector-based training, mentoring and supporting the Way to work scheme
- › Support if you employ someone with a disability or want advice and guidance on employing someone with a disability or health condition