

AIM to make Apprenticeship and Technical Education part of the conversation: what you need to know

Apprenticeship and Technical Education offers high quality training pathways into thousands of jobs within a wide range of sectors and are open to all students. However, this type of learning, and the benefits that come with it, are seldom well understood by parents and carers. As one of the biggest influences in a child's life, this can lead to less well-informed choices and some young people missing out on the best route for them. Education communities can work collectively to raise awareness of Apprenticeship and Technical Education. This guide offers a starting point and AIM sets these out in simple recommended first steps below.

A | **Awareness:** develop your knowledge of the key information around Apprenticeship and Technical Education.

Apprenticeships

- Available from level 2 (equivalent to GCSE) through to level 6/7 (Degree/Masters).
- The range of roles are extensive with many professional roles now accessible via this route from solicitor to robotics engineer.

T levels

- Industry focused level 3 qualifications (each equivalent to three A levels).
- They offer learners embedded placements and cover a wide range of industry areas.

HTQ

- Level 4/5 qualifications (equivalent to first or second year of a degree)
- Available in a range of vocational areas.

Find out more about these qualifications using the resource links below.

I | **Information:** know where to signpost parents and carers to more detailed information.

- [Talking Futures](#) helps parents to talk to their child about the future.
- Information about [apprenticeships](#)
- Information about [T-levels](#)
- Information about [Higher Technical Qualifications \(HTQ\)](#)
- Find out who, at your institution, can support with next steps, further information and support decision making, preparation and applications.

[Find more information resources and parent and carer FAQ's here](#)

[Click here for more staff support resources](#)

M | **Messages:** start conversations with parents and carers with positive messages about Apprenticeship and Technical Education.

- Schedule into planned conversations e.g. parents evening, parent groups/forums transition points such as options events. Aim to personalise this for each student.
- Conversation starters could include: "Does your child enjoy learning through doing?". "Is there anything about this route which you think would appeal to your child?" "Did you know that you can become a X via doing Y?"
- Start conversations indirectly with some engaging activities about vocational options e.g. careers events/curriculum time, subject choices, open days, themed off timetable days, newsletters. You can find some activity ideas in the accompanying resources.
- Facilitate conversations using resources and signposting.