



Lancashire Apprentice
Ambassador Network

Newsletter

Issue 6 | February 2018

Welcome to 2018

Welcome to the February 2018 edition of the Apprenticeship Ambassador newsletter.

The aim of this newsletter is to keep you updated on the Employer and Apprentice Ambassador Network activities, opportunities and forthcoming events.

It is also an opportunity to showcase the work your organisation is doing to promote apprenticeships.

If you have participated or will be doing anything to promote apprenticeships and/or the network please let Sam know so that she can promote this for you and put it in our newsletters.



Please remember to follow us on twitter @lancsambassador.

National Apprenticeship Week 2018 – Theme Announced

National Apprenticeship Week 2018 will take place from 5 to 9 March 2018. The theme for the Week was announced at the Skills Show and is 'Apprenticeships Work'. Please follow @Apprenticeships on Twitter; National Apprenticeship Service on LinkedIn and visit GOV.UK for more information on the theme and how you can support the Week. If you have any ideas and would like to discuss them please contact sam@lancsforum.co.uk.

We have two events confirmed for National Apprenticeship Week organised by ourselves and two of our Employer Ambassador, please see below for details.

- James Places are holding an Apprenticeship event on 7th March at Holmes Mill 10am till 4pm. Local schools and colleges will be invited along with the jobcentre. Employers and providers can exhibit for free, please email Sam if you would like to exhibit. Apprentice Ambassadors are needed to support with this and an email has been sent, if you can support with this even if just for a hour or two please contact Sam.
- South Ribble Council are holding an Apprenticeship event on 6th March. It will run from 2pm till 7pm. It will be open to the public and the council will be inviting local businesses who want to upskill their staff or recruit apprentices, it will also be open to the council staff who may want to develop their skills in other areas. If you would like to exhibit please can you contact me so that I can pass your details onto South Ribble Council. It is free and refreshments will be provided. Apprentice Ambassadors are needed to support with this event, if you can assist, again please contact Sam.

Key Facts About Apprenticeships

87% of employers said they were satisfied with the programme, **76%** say that productivity has improved and **75%** reported that apprenticeships improved the quality of their product or service.

Apprenticeships are **more likely** to be undertaken in small (0 to 49 employees) and large-sized employers (250+ employees), with 44% of apprenticeship participation within small employers and 41% of apprenticeship participation in large employers, in 2014 to 2015.

Apprenticeship Diversity Champions Network

The Apprenticeship Diversity Champions Network, chaired by Helen Grant MP, champions apprenticeships and diversity amongst employers and encourages more people from underrepresented groups, including those with disabilities, women and members of the black, Asian and minority ethnic (BAME) communities, to consider apprenticeships. The network is looking to grow the number of its member. If you are interested in joining, find out more on GOV.UK.

National Apprenticeship Shows

There's lots to look forward to in the new year, including the National Apprenticeship Shows! The next upcoming shows take place in Exeter, South West on the 31st January and at Westpoint Exeter on 1st February 2018. Book your place now or look for [dates in other areas](#).

Employer Guide

[Employer guide to apprenticeships](#) has recently been updated. This guide gives employers the information and benefits of recruiting apprentices to their business.

James' Places support the Ambassador Network

James' Places have nominated two of their apprentices, Danny and Robyn to be apprentice ambassadors, they have shown their support for the network and the pride in their apprentices by writing a piece about them in their December newsletter. Please see their article below.

Celebrating Success

We are very proud that Danny Parker from Mitton Hall has completed his apprenticeship. Danny along with Robyn Conmee from The Shireburn, are to become apprentice ambassadors for the company. Congratulations to them!

Crowberry Consulting attend STEM careers fair at Lancaster University

Becky and Mary from Crowberry Consulting attended a STEM careers fair at Lancaster University. They gave information and advice to many students about the apprenticeships that they offer and about the business.



NLTG Apprentice of the Year – William Holmes, Printed Cup Company

William Holmes started his qualification on the 12th September 2016, this was a Level 2 Certificate in Warehousing and Storage. His scheduled end date was the 13/01/18, however with the quality and quantity of work Will produced, he finished his Level 2 on the 09/10/17. He has now progressed and is now enrolled on his Level 3 Logistics qualification.

Earlier in the year Will's employer, the Printed Cup Company, were so impressed with his work ethic that they put him forward for the Apprentice of the Year award in the Lancashire Business View Sub36 Awards held in Blackpool. The judges were so impressed with his work and the personal challenges he has overcome that he successfully won the award. If that wasn't enough he also won the Printed Cup Company's Employee of the Year Award on Friday 15th December. To put the cherry on the cake for Will and to end a very impressive year, he has just been named NLTG's Apprentice of the Year 2017, the top of over 2000 other Apprentices from NLTG.



Ambassador Networking Event

We held our first Ambassador Networking Event on 13th December at Preston College. It was a great success and we had a lot of positive feedback. Our Ambassadors want this to be a regular event so we are planning to hold another one in February 2018. Two of our Employer Ambassadors, Joanne Pickering (Forbes Solicitors) and Mark Woodward (The Printed Cup Company), spoke about applying for awards and the benefits that it brings to the company by being nominated.

Two of our Apprentice Ambassadors, Portia Taylor-Black and Will Holmes, answered questions on the application process of applying for awards. This was well received by all.

Lisa Moizer gave a talk on the LEP's support of the project and gave an overview of what the LEP offers.



Joanne Pickering networking with Becky and Mary from Crowberry Consulting



Mark Woodward with two of his apprentices who are ambassadors Lewis and Will



Ambassadors busy networking

Ambassador Networking Event 2018

Our next Ambassador Networking Event will be on 12th February at 1pm at Preston College. The theme will be National Apprenticeship Week and we have a representative from The National Apprenticeship Service (NAS) coming to talk about National Apprenticeship Week. A couple of our Employer Ambassadors will also be talking about what they will be doing that week. Please confirm your attendance asap to sam@lancsforum.co.uk

National Young Ambassador Network Portal

[The portal](#) is now live and available for you as Lancashire Apprentice Ambassadors to use. To access the portal please go the following link and apply to be an ambassador. You will then be able to access all of the resources that will be placed onto the portal.

NW Board Members from the Lancashire Apprentice Ambassador Network

Yasemin has had to step down from being on the board of the NW Apprentice Ambassador Network due to work commitments. Portia Taylor-Black will now represent Lancashire Apprentice Ambassadors on the NW Board. Sam will be also be attending the board meetings of the Employer NW Ambassadors. Portia and Sam will pass on all relevant information after each meeting.

Ambassadors Support the ASK Project

2018 got off to a great start with an ASK presence at the Year 11 “Thinking Ahead Day” at Archbishop Temple School in Preston on 12th January. There were 5 workshops throughout the day; pupils watched the standard ASK presentation and “Understanding Apprenticeships” video, they looked at apprenticeship case studies, and were then supported to register on FAA and look at live vacancies. The workshops were supported by 3



apprentice ambassadors, Danny Blake (Trakrap Ltd), Emily Read (Natwest) and Oliver Crookham (NLTG) who answered questions on why they chose apprenticeships, who they work for, what they do, their future plans etc. Feedback from the school was great: “The speakers were excellent. The students and staff were very positive about all of the sessions that were delivered. Thanks for supporting the event. They were the best we have ever had.”



What other things have our Ambassadors have been up to

Christopher Whyte from NHS attended an event for the Skills Development Networks Leads of different trusts on 13th December. Chris delivered a presentation and spoke for half an hour to 120 people on why he chose an apprenticeship, the benefits, his training, his role and his future goals in the organisation.

Greylaw attended a careers event with their apprentices on 12th December at Up Holland High School in Skelmersdale, where they promoted apprenticeships in the logistics industry to parents and students.

Three apprentice ambassadors, Oliver, Emily and Danny attended Archbishop Temple School on 12th January to assist with delivering workshops to groups of approximately 30 pupils. They spoke about their journeys and experiences of being an apprentice.

+24 Marketing and Fortvale attended the Themis Apprenticeship careers event at Burnley College.

Crowberry Consulting attended a STEM careers fair at Lancaster University.