



Lancashire Apprentice
Ambassador Network

Newsletter

Issue 8 | June 2018

The aim of this newsletter is to keep you updated on the 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.

Sam Keenan supports the network

Sam Keenan (+24 Marketing), one of our Employer Ambassadors, supported the network and promoted the value of apprenticeships at The Digital Skills Summit on 18th April. Sam was on the panel answering questions about the skills for our future work force. Sam said of his experience "It was great to be a part of the conversation! There's plenty for us to do but hopefully we can do it if we all work together".

The UK's first Digital Skills Partnership is being piloted by the Department for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport (DCMS) in the county, in partnership with the Lancashire Enterprise Partnership's (LEP's) Skills and Employment Hub.

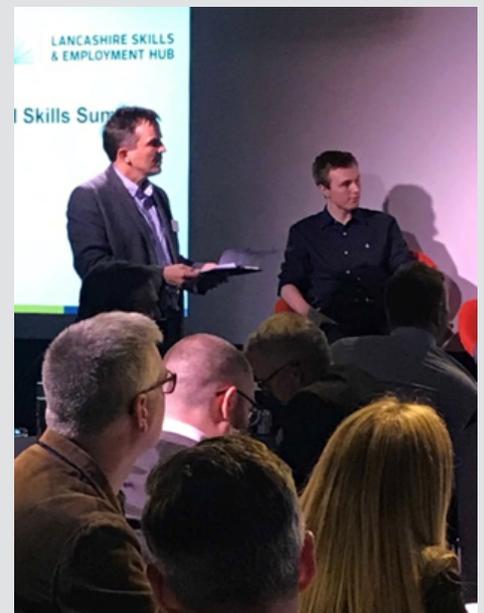
The innovative approach will help identify gaps in digital skills provision in Lancashire, encourage partners to work strategically together to address them and attract investment from outside bodies. The aim is to have greater impact and be more effective and sustainable over the long term.

Google, TSB and Lloyds have all agreed to give more support to digital skills training in Lancashire through the partnership. Google has committed to working with local partners to train 1,000 people and businesses through its Google Digital Garage programme.

Improving skill levels in this key sector of the economy will help support the LEP's strategic aim to boost countywide job creation and fuel economic growth.

The ground-breaking new initiative was announced at The Lancashire Digital Skills Summit, an event focusing on tech skills in Preston, at which some of Lancashire's most high-profile businesses, charities and public bodies signed up to the partnership.

The summit, held at the headquarters of e-commerce firm EKM, showcased the work under way to improve digital skills and discussed what further steps were needed. It was a very successful day and The Lancashire Apprentice Ambassador Network supported the event and promoted the network to the many employers that attended.



+24 Marketing provide valuable work experience

+24 Marketing has provided a 15 year old from Sir John Thursby College, the opportunity to spend a week there doing work experience. +24 marketing said “+24 Marketing are keen to help young people gain vital work experience which will help them in later life”.

New Apprentices join the network

In April, 2 more apprentices joined the network. We now have Josh who works for Headstart in Blackpool and is very passionate about helping young people. HeadStart is a multi-agency programme aiming to increase resilience in young people and improve mental well-being by building a resilience revolution across the whole of Blackpool; and Ellie who works for Home Instead in West Lancashire. Ellie is very passionate about apprenticeships and wants to inform young people of the opportunities that are available. Home Instead Senior Care is a multinational network of franchises specialising in non-medical in-home care for the elderly, in support of ageing. We now have in place 44 apprentice ambassadors in the network with more to join.

Careers event at Carr Hill High School

Brittany Mollart from Lancashire Teaching Hospitals exhibited at Carr Hill High school on behalf of the NHS. Britany spoke to many parents and students about apprenticeships and the benefits using her own experiences. Sam Connelly delivered a presentation to parents and students on the benefits of apprenticeships and how to apply. This was the first careers fair that the school have held and it was very informative for all that attended.



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

William Holmes started his Level 2 Apprenticeship in Warehousing & Storage on 12th September 2016. His scheduled end date was 13th January 2018, however with the quality and quantity of work Will produced, he finished his Level 2 in just over 12 months, on 9th October 2017. He has since progressed and is now studying a Level 3 Logistics qualification.

Will has also won the Printed Cup Company's Employee of the Year Award in December, and to put the cherry on the cake, and to end a very impressive year, he has just been named NLTG's Apprentice of the Year 2017; beating the competition from over 2000 other NLTG Apprentices.



Natalie goes back to school



Natalie went back to her high school to assist with an awareness assembly for ASK. Natalie spoke to the students about her journey

and experience as an apprentice and how it has been much more beneficial for her than going to college and university. The teachers were very pleased to see her and to hear of her success and they are going to put an article in their newsletter about Natalie's success.

Council scheme puts apprenticeships on the map

An innovative new project to put apprenticeships at the heart of business in South Ribble has been given the green light by council bosses.

South Ribble Borough Council's Human Resources and Economic Development teams have come up with a brand new initiative to increase the number of apprentices we have working in the borough.

The 'South Ribble Apprentice Factory' aims to bring together businesses and would-be apprentices by offering them guidance and support.

It will gather all the information and make it accessible in one place, clearly showing where the opportunities lie around South Ribble and at which businesses.

Councillor Peter Mullineaux, Leader of South Ribble Borough Council, said: "It's very exciting to be one of the leading public sector organisations committed to bringing more and more apprenticeships to the region. I'm immensely proud of our team here – and I'm thrilled that so many residents and businesses stand to gain from the Apprentice Factory. It's about growing

skills; having an educated and innovative workforce who are continually developing their abilities in order to make a real difference to South Ribble businesses".

"We also want to dispel all the myths and misconceptions people have about apprenticeships: for example, they can encompass all kinds of careers across the board, and are open to all ages"

"Apprenticeships also allow people to gain qualifications right up to postgraduate level, so they're a massive opportunity for the people of South Ribble".

The council recognises the importance of apprentices to the borough's future economic growth, and so has included it as a key part of the new, recently approved Corporate Plan for 2018-23.

It also held a successful skills and training event in March as part of National Apprenticeship Week.

South Ribble Borough Council has a good track record itself of championing apprenticeships – with its own successful training programme available to current staff and annual recruitment of new apprentices.

Learn Live broadcast by an Employer Ambassador

Silentnight participated in a learn live broadcast on 19th April. This was to promote apprenticeships to schools.



NHS Support Apprentices and the network

Gary Raphael, Finance Director says "In Lancashire and South Cumbria we want to ensure that there are development opportunities for younger people from our local communities who feel a sense of commitment to the services we provide for our population. We want to work with apprentices to develop their skills, foster a sense of belonging in our organisations and create a growing team of home grown talent to enable our services to be staffed into the future".

Chris Whyte one of our Apprentice Ambassadors works for the NHS and is currently doing his level 3 in Software Development. Chris is passionate about his work and apprenticeships.

Tim Bennett - Deputy Chief Executive/Director of Finance & Performance, Blackpool Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust has said "I believe apprenticeships offer a great way to grow talent and help provide young people with a way of developing their careers".



Apprentice Ambassadors supporting ASK

Portia Taylor-Black supported an awareness assembly at Our Lady Queen of Peace High School. Portia spoke about her experience and her journey to 225 pupils. Portia also attended Ormskirk High School where she discussed apprenticeships as a career option to year 9 pupils.



Harrison Leigh and Kerstin Wilkinson supported two awareness assemblies at Parklands High School. They both spoke to the pupils about why they chose this route and about their journey. There were over 100 pupils at each assembly.

E=Safety Training

There will be another e-safety training session in October (date and time tbc) for apprentice ambassadors. If anyone would like to register to attend please contact sam@lancsforum.co.uk. Those who have completed this have said how interesting it was and would urge anyone to go on this training.

The agenda is as follows:

- What do we understand E-Safety and Online safety as?
- Why is important we know more about being safe?
- The Three C's
- Popular apps
- Benefits
- Concerns and dangers
- Fake News / false Images
- Associated dangers and terminology
- What protection / support is available?

Ambassador Networking Event

The next Ambassador Networking event will be on 18th June at Preston's College. It will be held in the Boardroom between 1pm and 3pm. Invitations have been sent out. Please email sam@lancsforum.co.uk to confirm your attendance.



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