

LEARNER NEWSLETTER

KEEP SCROLLING FOR HOT TOPICS TO CHAT THROUGH WITH YOUR TUTOR!

NEW ACADEMIC YEAR, NEW OPPORTUNITIES



As we start the new academic year, we wish all our apprentices a fantastic learning journey.

What does a fantastic learning journey look like?

- Modern curriculum (Achieving Excellence, employer)
- Strong planning (tutor, apprentice and employer)
- Effective Teaching (tutor) and Learning (apprentice)
- Qualitative assessment (apprentice)
- Regular learning reviews (apprentice, tutor and employer)
- Embedding learning at work (apprentice and employer)
- Recall of learning (apprentice)
- Successful End Point Assessment (apprentice).

Alongside all of this, we must all have a clear understanding of your planned end date, and how you are going to achieve within those time periods.

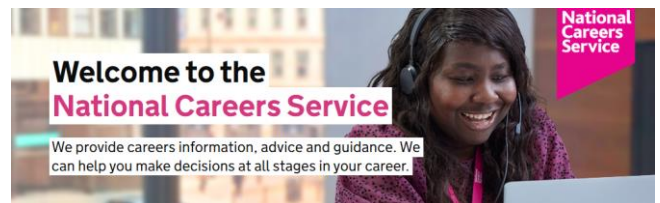
In approaching the programme, we must all have open and honest communication, positive attitudes and consistent attendance.

By committing to the programme, it becomes mandatory under the confines of the Apprenticeship Agreement. Finding regular learning and assessment patterns are crucial.

Part of the learning journey is being aware of your ongoing or future options, career, education or other. At this time of year this may also be applicable to your children or grandchildren, or those of your workers, etc.

There are so many different routes and paths anyone can take whether A-Levels, College, university or work. Or even apprenticeships!

Your tutor is here to help you as part of your regular learning reviews. However, there is also help from places like the following:



[Careers advice - job profiles, information and resources | National Careers Service](#)

[Find a job - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#)

[CV advice | National Careers Service](#)

[How to choose a career | Prospects.ac.uk](#)

[Explore careers | National Careers Service](#)

[GCSEs: What if you don't get the grades? - BBC News](#)

[Find an apprenticeship - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#)

Please consider the approach to your current programme but also your next steps!

Thanks

Rick Shuttleworth

Director

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DIVERSITY – LANGUAGES DAY

Throughout Europe, 700 million Europeans are represented in the Council of Europe's 46 member states and all are encouraged to discover more languages at any age, as part of or alongside their studies. This stems from the Council of Europe's conviction that linguistic diversity is a tool for achieving greater intercultural understanding and a key element in the rich cultural heritage of our continent. Therefore, the Council of Europe, in Strasbourg, promotes plurilingualism in the whole of Europe.

Verbal communication only makes up 7% of our communication, with 55% being made up of body language and 38% is tone of voice. Body language can vary dependent on place, such as putting your thumb up, although in the UK it is considered a positive sign, in parts of Europe and the Middle East it can be considered vulgar or offensive. Generation Z users also find the thumbs up emoji to be passive aggressive, hurtful and rude. It is important that we are thinking about our non-verbal communication as well as what we are actually saying.

Within the UK we speak over 300 languages, the main language spoken by 92% of the population is English but there are also other native languages such as Irish Gaelic, Scottish Gaelic, Welsh, Manx, Cornish and the Channel Island languages as well as Polish, Urdu, Arabic and Mandarin.

In 2003 the UK government formally recognised that British sign language is a language in its own right and from September 2025 will be taught to pupils in schools as a GCSE.

It is important that we continue to celebrate our diversity, and this includes the different languages that are spoken.

What does your setting do to support different languages? Is there more that can be done? What are your settings policies if someone cannot read?

BRITISH VALUES – DEMOCRACY DAY

In 2007 the United Nations General Assembly chose to observe 15th September as the day of International Day of Democracy, with the purpose of promoting and upholding the principles of democracy,

Democracy means 'rule by the people' in a democracy, like the UK, people elect the government and have a say in how its run, this is done by voting in elections.

Democracy maintains law and order – we have laws that are created by and voted by MPs we elect. We all have to follow them as they help keep us safe.

It provides freedom of speech – we have the right to say what we think about something as long as we do not say anything hurtful to others.

It helps achieve equality – living in a democracy helps us to treat each other fairly and equally.

Anyone over the age of 18 is eligible for voting and it is important that we all make sure we utilise our vote so that the UK can continue to be a democracy.

In your workplace, you can promote democracy by encouraging staff or service users to have a say, if this is through staff meetings or service users meetings, or by sending feedback forms to other stakeholders.

At Achieving Excellence we welcome any feedback that you have and you can speak to your tutor about this.



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PREVENT – EDUCATE AGAINST HATE

Anyone can be vulnerable to extremism and radicalisation, but children are particularly at risk. As they grow and become more independent, it is not unusual for them to take risks, explore new things and push boundaries.

Teenage years are often a time when young people will be searching for answers to questions about identity, faith and belonging, as well as looking for adventure and excitement. Extremist groups know young people are vulnerable and may claim to offer them answers, identity and a strong social network, and using the internet and social media to spread their ideology.

We need to educate our children and others about what prevent is and how this can be managed, children and young people can have access to far more material now than they have ever previously due to the internet being accessible for most of the young people, this can be a great tool if used correctly, however, the dark web can lead to children looking at material that may lead to extremism and radicalisation.

We need to be aware of what the signs are of extremism and radicalisation and how to put early intervention into place.

Radicalisation can be really difficult to spot. Signs that may indicate a child is being radicalised include:

- isolating themselves from family and friends
- talking as if from a scripted speech
- unwillingness or inability to discuss their views
- a sudden disrespectful attitude towards others
- increased levels of anger
- increased secretiveness, especially around internet use.

<https://www.educateagainsthate.com>

HEALTH AND WELL-BEING – WORLD HEART DAY

World Heart Day is a reminder to everyone around the world to take care of their hearts. This year's campaign focuses on the essential step of knowing our hearts first.

It is not limited to a specific theme or topic. Instead, those who activate the campaign can choose their area of focus – i.e., the environment, healthcare access, mental health or priority risk factors – and provoke their audiences with questions that are relevant and interesting to them.

Did you know that your heart is the size of your fist and the strongest muscle in your body? It started beating about three weeks after you were conceived. If you live to be 70, it will have beaten two and a half billion times. However, although impressive and strong, your heart can also become vulnerable from habitual risk factors like [smoking](#), [diabetes](#), [cholesterol](#), eating an [unhealthy diet](#), or living with [high blood pressure](#).

Although cardiovascular disease is the world's number one killer, causing over 18.6 million deaths per year this year's focus is about things that we love as well as our heart health.

You can celebrate world heart day in a variety of ways this year, by talking to others about what you love and what means the most to you or making sure that those around you are feeling valued and supported. We have all been through a very tough few years with the cost of living crisis and Covid and it is important to spend time with loved ones to make sure that they are okay and are signposted to support if it is needed.

Mental health is becoming more talked about and accepted but there is still a way to go and it is important to care for those around you with mental health and check in with those who are struggling. It is also important that you speak to someone if you are struggling.

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SAFEGUARDING – CHILD PROTECTION

As a result of the childcare reviews in 2022 and reports into the murders of Arthur Labinjo-Hughes and Star Hobson in 2020 the government has assigned £45 million to a programme called 'Families First for children' that would ensure that targeted early help is available for families experiencing domestic abuse, addiction or poor mental health before issues escalated and children were put at risk of harm.



The programme will make sure that early help is given to families to support them through difficult time so they can stay together, making sure that expert child protection services are in place to make sure that action is swift and decisive when it comes to vulnerable children.

Included in this new programme are including involving the wider family in decision making at an earlier stage and introducing "stronger and clearer multi-agency safeguarding arrangements".

The scheme will look at keeping families together and children out of care where appropriate which was a recommendation made by the review of children's social care in 2022.

David Johnston (Children, families and wellbeing minister) stated 'every child deserves a safe and loving environment, where they are protected and can thrive. The progress we are making with our children's social

care reforms will make sure all families can access the right support before issues escalate, helping keep more children in safe and loving homes.'

The programme was initially tested in Dorset, Lincolnshire and Wolverhampton, and will now be implemented in Luton, Redbrige, Lewisham, Warrington, Walsall, Wariwckshire and The Wirral.

Although this programme will help to safeguard children and young people the Minister for Children, families and wellbeing Claire Coutinho stated that 'I don't think you can every say these cases will never happen again because there will always be some families that despite the best efforts of social workers, they can't quite reach them in time'.

It is vital that a child is supported holistically and this includes recognising the family needs surrounding the child and how the family are also supported in the safeguarding of a child.

