

## Apprenticeship Ambassador Annual Report 2015

Since March 2015, Oxfordshire Apprenticeships has recruited and trained 20 Apprenticeship Ambassadors representing 7 different Apprenticeship Frameworks from various backgrounds and companies around Oxfordshire.



The scheme sees current and former Apprentices supporting the work of Oxfordshire Apprenticeships by volunteering to help young people and their families and employers to understand the benefits of Apprenticeships. They do this by attending events such as careers fairs, school assemblies and employer briefings to tell their stories and share what they've learned, giving people the opportunity to hear real life success stories first-hand, ask questions and talk openly about what it's like to be an Apprentice.

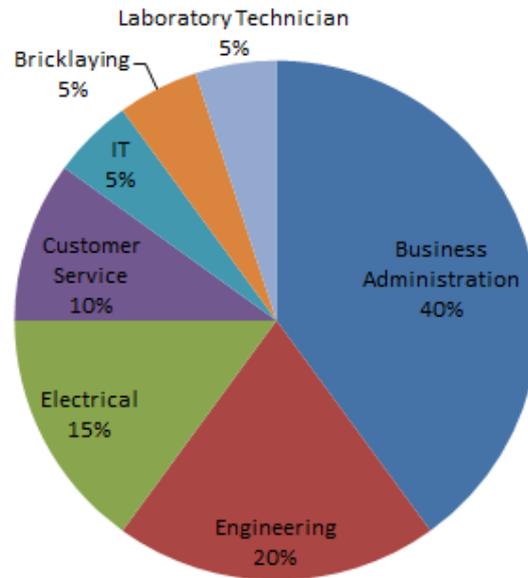
Apprenticeship Ambassadors attend a training and preparation day to prepare them for their role by brushing up on presentation skills and practicing giving a talk about themselves. This year, the Ambassadors also attended an Away Day to enable them to get to know each other while contributing to their personal development. The day also provided an opportunity for the Ambassadors to give their ideas and suggestions about how they would like to promote Apprenticeships, both in general and more specifically in the sector and for the employer they work for, as well as how Oxfordshire Apprenticeships could engage with and interest young people in Oxfordshire. A video of the Ambassadors talking about their Apprenticeships was created on the day, which has since been shown to students at schools, used at careers events and is available to watch on the Oxfordshire Apprenticeships YouTube channel (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hFFt411jkSI>).

### Profile of Apprenticeship Ambassadors

Of the 20 Ambassadors, 7 different job roles and Apprenticeship frameworks are represented, with the Business Administration framework being the most popular. 8 Ambassadors, or 40%, are undertaking this framework, compared to 1 Ambassador, or 5%, completing an IT, Bricklaying or Laboratory Technician Apprenticeship. The complete breakdown of Ambassadors in each job sector and framework is shown in the table opposite and pie chart below.

Job Role	Total	Percentage
Business Administration	8	40
Engineering	4	20
Electrical	3	15
Customer Service	2	10
IT	1	5
Bricklaying	1	5
Lab Technician	1	5
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>100</b>

## Percentage of Apprenticeship Ambassadors in each sector

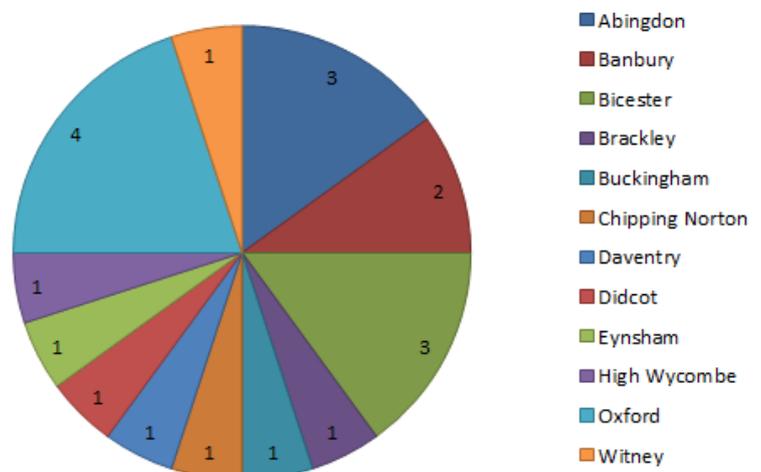


## Secondary School Location of Apprenticeship Ambassadors

Looking at the location of secondary schools the Ambassadors attended gives a good indication of their spread across the county and where they come from. This means that Ambassadors can attend more events throughout the county and share their story. Looking at the data below, you can see that the town with the largest number of Ambassadors is Oxford where 4 went to school, followed by Abingdon and Bicester with 3 and Banbury with 2. The other 8 towns each had one Ambassador attend their schools.

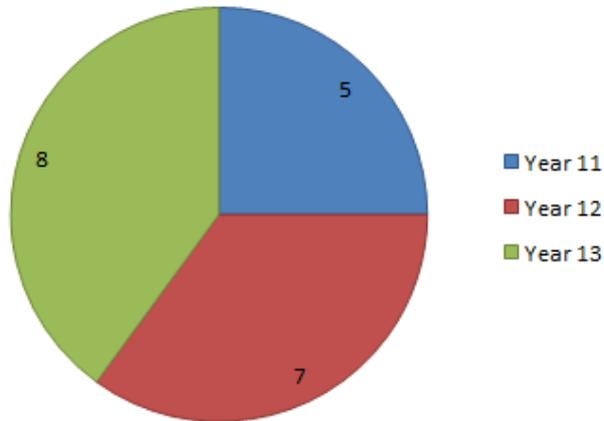
Secondary School Town	Total
Abingdon	3
Banbury	2
Bicester	3
Brackley	1
Buckingham	1
Chipping Norton	1
Daventry	1
Didcot	1
Eynsham	1
High Wycombe	1
Oxford	4
Witney	1
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>20</b>

## Secondary School Location of Apprenticeship Ambassadors



## Year Apprenticeship Ambassador Left School

### Year Apprenticeship Ambassadors left school



Year Left School	Total
Year 11	5
Year 12	7
Year 13	8
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>20</b>

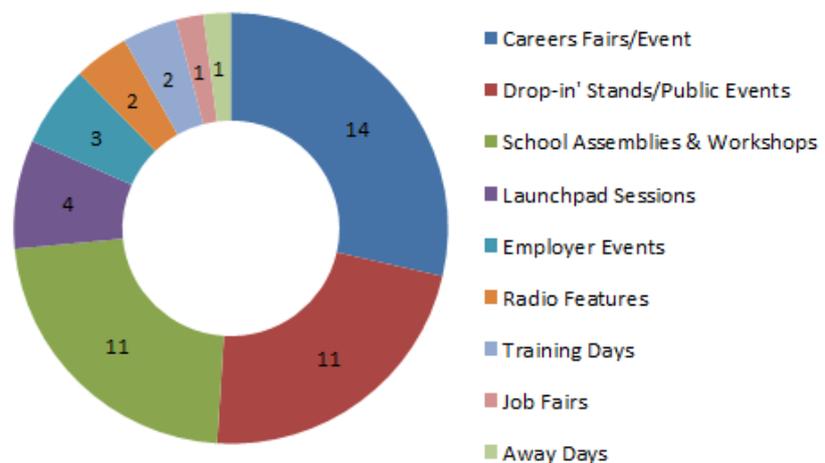
The pie chart opposite and table above show that 40% of Ambassadors completed A Levels and left school after Year 13, 35% completed the first year of A Levels before leaving and 25% left school after completing GCSEs to start their Apprenticeship.

## Apprenticeship Ambassador Activity

Throughout the year, the Ambassadors, along with the Oxfordshire Apprenticeships Team, have been busy attending numerous events ranging from school career fairs to employer events and public job fairs to individual school assemblies and workshops. The role of the Ambassadors at these events is to tell their stories to those attending to highlight the benefits of Apprenticeships and answer any questions they may have.

Since being trained, the 20 Ambassadors have attended 46 different events this year, including 14 careers fairs, 11 'drop-in' stands and public events, 11 school assemblies and workshops, 4 Apprenticeship Launchpad sessions, 3 employer events, been featured on the radio twice, been interviewed for That's Oxford TV and represented Oxfordshire Apprenticeships at 1 public job fair. In addition to this, the Oxfordshire Apprenticeships team have held 2 training days and 1 Away Day for the Ambassadors.

### Number of different events attended by Apprenticeship Ambassadors



## Award Winning Apprenticeship Ambassadors

Not only have the Ambassadors benefited young people and employers around the county by telling their stories, their role has also contributed to some of them winning local and national awards. Both Emily Joyce and Sophie Jamieson from the University of Oxford were recognised at the University of Oxford Apprenticeship Awards where they won special Apprenticeship Ambassador Awards for inspiring people with the potential of Apprenticeships. Charlotte Cox, Oxfordshire County Council, won the Directorate and Corporate CHOICE award for Honesty and Luke Mullan from Clarkson Evans won the Apprentice of the Year Award at the National Electrical Industry Awards this year. As well as both winning awards this year, Luke and Sophie also presented the Apprenticeship of the Year Award, sponsored by Oxfordshire Apprenticeships, at the 2015 Oxfordshire Business Awards and Sophie was the guest speaker at the South West, Thames Valley and Solent National Apprenticeship Awards.



Emily Joyce with Dr. Stephen Goss, Pro-Vice-Chancellor for Personnel and Equality, at the University of Oxford Apprenticeship Awards



Charlotte Cox with Cllr John Sanders, Chairman of the Council and Peter Clark, Head of Paid Services, at Oxfordshire County Council Corporate CHOICE Awards



Sophie Jamieson speaking at the South West, Thames Valley and Solent National Apprenticeship Awards



Sophie Jamieson and Luke Mullan presenting the Apprenticeship of the Year Award at the Oxfordshire Business Awards 2015

## Quotes from Apprenticeship Ambassadors

### **What advice would you give a young person who might be thinking about an Apprenticeship?**

Conor Allen-Miles, Customer Service Apprentice, British Gas:

*'I could not recommend an Apprenticeship enough. I was sceptical at first about leaving a school/college education in order to do one, but I genuinely think it has been the best decision I have ever made. I am thoroughly enjoying myself, learning so much and I've built a foundation for my career.'*

Sam Walker, Electrical Estimator, Darke & Taylor:

*'An Apprenticeship is a great way to learn whilst earning. Although university is a great way of educating yourself, an Apprenticeship is a great alternative with an open ended opportunity to progress and take all sorts of routes in the working world.'*

Zoe Adams, Research, Development and Quality Apprentice Engineer, Jacob Douwe Egberts:

*'I believe that Apprenticeships offer a great alternative to traditional education routes. You learn and develop through real life experiences and have the support of the company and its employees, to help ensure your success.'*

### **What have you gained from your Apprenticeship?**

Steph Rockett, Business Admin Apprentice, Oxford City Council:

*'I have gained a lot of confidence from my Apprenticeship so far. I have also learnt admin skills such as using excel, email and how to talk to people on the phone – which I wasn't confident in doing beforehand. I have also gained knowledge about various people's careers at various age ranges which has helped me to gain a wider understanding of what sorts of things are available for me to do once my Apprenticeship is over.'*

Charlotte Cox, Administrative Officer, Oxfordshire County Council:

*'One of the main things that I've gained is confidence in the workplace, both when working on my own and using my initiative and when working within a team. I have gained experience of working in an office environment which has helped to develop my customer service, communication and organisational skills. Other skills that I have learnt include preparing contracts and specifications, managing events and projects and analysing data.'*

Chay Fisher, Bricklaying Apprentice, ABC Oxford Ltd:

*'I have learned about working as part of a team as well as working individually and I've learned a lot of skills - I don't just do houses, I do garden walls, garages. I'm now earning more than my mates! I like not being dependent on my parents for money.'*

### **How do you feel about being an Apprenticeship Ambassador?**

Emily Joyce, Administrative Assistant, University of Oxford:

*'I believe having Apprenticeship Ambassadors will help future Apprentices. They will bring awareness, knowledge and experience and be an inspiration to the candidates of the future. All of the advice given will help them commence on a career of their choice. I feel very honoured to be taking part in the scheme and hope that I can encourage and help future Apprentices by informing them of my experiences and achievements as an Apprentice.'*

## Apprenticeship Ambassadors in the Media

Oxford Mail, 29/04/2015

# Apprentices to showcase new scheme

NINE young people from Oxfordshire are to become ambassadors to help promote apprenticeships across the county.

The youngsters who are completing or have recently completed apprenticeships with local firms are the first to join the latest initiative by Oxfordshire Apprenticeships.

Emily Joyce, 21, a former pupil at Wood Green School in Witney, and now an apprentice administrative assistant in the Department of Physics at Oxford University, is set to become one of the ambassadors.

She said: "I believe having apprenticeship ambassadors will bring awareness, knowledge and experience and be an inspiration to the candidates of the future.

"I feel very honoured to be taking part in the scheme and hope that I can encourage and help future apprentices by informing them of my



**HONOURED:** Emily Joyce will become an ambassador for apprenticeships across the county experiences and achievements as an apprentice."

George Hall, 21, a former student at Sir William Ramsey School in High Wycombe, is now in his third year of a mechanical engineering

apprenticeship at Culham Centre for Fusion Energy near Abingdon.

He is also set to be become an ambassador and added: "I feel honoured to be an apprenticeship ambassador and to have the opportunity to give my story about why I chose to take an apprenticeship.

"The first cohort of apprenticeship ambassadors will have a dual role - helping to show employers the benefits to them of taking on an apprentice, and encouraging the next generation of apprentices to sign up."

Oxfordshire Apprenticeships is a partnership project funded through the Oxfordshire City Deal that works with employers, training providers, schools, colleges, potential apprenticeship candidates of all ages, and other partners across Oxfordshire.

For more information visit [oxfordshireapprenticeships.co.uk](http://oxfordshireapprenticeships.co.uk)

Oxford Mail, 30/04/15



**SPREADING THE MESSAGE:** Oxford City Council apprentice ambassadors Stephanie Rockett, left, and Lucy Langford

Photo: Owen Hillard

# Young ambassadors to spread the word for apprenticeships

**Gill Oliver**  
[goliver@iq.com](mailto:goliver@iq.com)



**ALTERNATIVE:** Striving to offer choice for those who don't want university place

**APPRENTICESHIPS** are not talked about enough in schools, according to Stephanie Rockett.

The 19-year-old is one of nine apprentice ambassadors recruited to promote learn-while-you-earn job opportunities around the county.

Ms Rockett, a business administration apprentice with Oxford City Council's human resources department, said there was too much emphasis on applying to university.

She said: "Apprenticeships are not advertised as much as they should be in schools.

"I'd like to get the message out there that if university is not for you, there are lots of other options."

The former St Gregory the Great pupil from Remington is seven months into a two-year course that leads to a NVQ level 3 qualification.

The newly-launched ambassador scheme, run by Oxfordshire County Council under the Oxford City Deal, sends apprentices to careers fairs, school assemblies, workshops and townhalls to talk to young people and their parents about what is on offer.

**I'd like to get the message out there that if university is not for you, there are lots of other options - Stephanie Rockett**

The number of ambassadors is set to double when another 10 are recruited by the end of June.

Ms Rockett added: "I don't feel apprenticeships are entered for enough because it was all university-based at my school.

"I was lucky my brother had done it as that made me look online to see what was available."

Lucy Langford, 18, on a two-year business administration apprenticeship with Oxford City Council's environmental development department, applied "by accident" after her father spotted an advertisement.

The former Cherwell School pupil from Marston, said: "I wanted to go into teaching but my best year of A-levels wasn't very good and I realised that was not the right choice.

"In the sixth form we did lots of stuff about how to apply to university but not much about other options, so I'm quite excited to help others in the same position I was."

She said there were a number of misunderstandings about what was involved.

She added: "People think you are on the side, doing jobs no one else wants to but it's nothing like that. I feel part of the team and forget I'm an apprentice most of the time."

The other seven ambassadors are business administration apprentices Megan Clarke, Laura Cunningham, Lily Dodd, Emily Joyce and Ashley Sellwood plus engineering apprentice George Hall and apprentice electrician Luka Mullian.

Oxfordshire Apprenticeships skills officer Melanie Ringer said: "Young people can hear directly from apprentices or former apprentices what's involved."

For more information, visit [oxfordshireapprenticeships.co.uk](http://oxfordshireapprenticeships.co.uk)

Advertisers Announcement

# Thinking about the future?

## What could an Apprenticeship mean to you?

Demand for Apprentices in Oxfordshire is on the increase, and the choice in Apprenticeships available has never been greater – but what does this mean to young people making career choices? Apprenticeships provide the opportunity to gain real experience, work skills and qualifications while earning money, and are increasingly seen as a launchpad to a successful career.

After completing A Levels at Chenderit School in Banbury, Zoe Adams, 21, chose a 4 year Engineering Apprenticeship over a place at university. She is now in her second year at Jacobs Douwe Egberts in Banbury and enjoying every minute. The company are paying for Zoe to study part time for a foundation degree in Engineering at Birmingham Metropolitan College alongside her Apprenticeship. Zoe says: "My Apprenticeship allows me to develop a wide range of hands-on and business skills whilst studying towards higher education. I believe that Apprenticeships offer a great alternative to traditional education routes. You learn and develop through real life experiences and have the support of the company and its employees to help ensure your success."

**Zoe Adams, Engineering Apprentice at Jacobs Douwe Egberts**



Employers value Apprenticeships as a way of creating a skilled workforce to meet their specific needs. Elaine Hodgkin, Head of Sales & Marketing at Clarkson Evans says

"Apprentice electricians are key to the success of Clarkson Evans in Oxfordshire. Our teams of electricians are wiring new homes throughout the county and our order book is booming. We offer excellent long-term career prospects for those with a natural knack for all things practical who want structured training and a job with higher than national earning average potential."

The Oxfordshire Apprenticeships website is packed with information, advice and news on the local scene, as well as a live feed of current vacancies.

The Oxfordshire Apprenticeships team organises road shows, pop-up ApprenticeSHOPS, careers events and more, and works with Apprenticeship Ambassadors to share real life experiences with people who are thinking about starting an Apprenticeship.

Thinking about Apprenticeships ...?  
 You're in the right place!

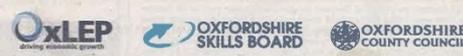


Find out what an  
 Apprenticeship  
 could mean to you ...

[www.oxfordshireapprenticeships.co.uk](http://www.oxfordshireapprenticeships.co.uk)

[info@oxfordshireapprenticeships.co.uk](mailto:info@oxfordshireapprenticeships.co.uk)

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### Pop-up advice day on apprenticeships

**OXFORD:** People interested in all aspects of apprenticeships are invited to an 'Apprenticeship Shop' next week.

A pop-up advice station hosted by Oxfordshire Apprenticeships will be available at the Westgate Shopping Centre on Monday and Tuesday, 11am-3pm.

Teams of ambassadors will be on hand to give advice on GCSE results day support, training provider open events and current opportunities.

Employers interested in growing their businesses through apprenticeships are also welcome. For more information email [info@oxfordshireapprenticeships.co.uk](mailto:info@oxfordshireapprenticeships.co.uk).

# Gain experience and more from an apprenticeship

**R**IGHT now there are over 300 Apprenticeship vacancies in Oxfordshire. The choice in apprenticeships available has never been greater - but what does this mean to young people making career choices? All young people have a right to be offered a learning placement after finishing Year 11 and Year 12 - this can be in school, college or work based learning such as an Apprenticeship or Traineeship. Apprenticeships provide the opportunity to gain real experience, work skills and qualifications while earning money and are increasingly seen as a launchpad to a

successful career. Ryan Jones, 20, left school after GCSEs and went to college to study engineering. He started a four year engineering apprenticeship with Crownson Detection Instruments in 2013 and hasn't looked back. Ryan says: "An apprenticeship is the perfect route to getting a full time job. It is made up of practical and theory based activities to match the job role. It helps to develop you as a person and your self confidence. You get paid whilst you learn which means no debt from studies compared to going to university". As part of his apprenticeship, Ryan is working towards a HNC in

electrical electronic engineering. He says: "I plan to go into full time employment with Crownson and complete a HND qualification. Employers value apprenticeships as a way of creating a skilled workforce to meet their specific needs. Bekkie Scoble, HR manager at Crownson Detection Instruments says: "An engineering apprenticeship can lead to degree level qualifications while working. "This, combined with significant relevant experience, creates excellent employees for all areas of our business. "As a successful engineering manufacturer of products which save lives across the

globe, we have further apprentices in a wide range of senior roles up to director level." The Oxfordshire Apprenticeships website www.oxfordshireapprenticeships.co.uk is packed with information, advice and news on the local scene, as well as a live feed of current vacancies. The apprenticeships team organises road shows, pop-up Apprenticeships, careers events and more, and works with Apprenticeship Ambassadors to share real life experiences with anyone who is thinking about starting an apprenticeship. Contact the team for an informal chat.



Thinking about Apprenticeships ...? You're in the right place!



Find out what an Apprenticeship could mean to you ...

www.oxfordshireapprenticeships.co.uk  
info@oxfordshireapprenticeships.co.uk

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# Thinking about Apprenticeships? Ask the experts!

**ADVERTISING FEATURE**

Are you thinking about Apprenticeships for yourself or someone you know? Are you wondering what it's like to be an Apprentice, or do you have a question about Apprenticeships that you'd love to know the answer to? Why not ask the experts!

Oxfordshire Apprenticeships have enlisted the help and support of 20 Apprenticeship Ambassadors - all young people who are currently doing an Apprenticeship or have recently completed one. They are from different areas of the county and represent a variety of Apprenticeships, from bricklaying to business admin, lab technician to engineering.

The role of the Apprenticeship Ambassadors is to give young people and their families the opportunity to talk first-hand to someone who knows their stuff so that people can hear not just the theory, but real life success stories and have the opportunity to ask questions and talk openly about what it's like to be an Apprentice.

Among other things, the Ambassadors have been back to their former schools to talk to students in assemblies and at careers fairs, given radio and newspaper interviews, supported pop-up events in town centres and talked to

employers interested in taking on Apprentices to give them the Apprentice perspective. And they're available to talk to your Apprenticeship Ambassador Laura says: "I've been an Apprentice, so I know exactly what it's like and where it can lead your career. It's really important to find out as much as you can about your options - so why not ask someone who's got first-hand experience of Apprenticeships to help you find out all about them? Get in touch with any questions you have, we Apprenticeship Ambassadors would love to hear from you!"

If you have a question that you'd like to ask an Apprenticeship Ambassador, or would like to chat to an Apprentice about anything to do with Apprenticeships, please email info@oxfordshireapprenticeships.co.uk. If you'd like an Apprenticeship Ambassador to come to your school, business or organisation to talk about their experiences, then please get in touch!

Find out more about our Apprenticeship Ambassadors at <http://www.oxfordshireapprenticeships.co.uk/apprenticeship-ambassadors>, like them on Facebook [www.facebook.com/ApprenticesRox](http://www.facebook.com/ApprenticesRox) or follow them on Twitter @ApprenticesROx.



The photograph caption: Apprenticeship Ambassador Laura Cunningham, 20

48 OXFORD TIMES Thursday, November 5, 2015 [www.oxfordtimes.co.uk/news](http://www.oxfordtimes.co.uk/news)

# APPRENTICESHIPS 2015

From left, Evans & Taylor apprentice Kevin Richmond and Ben Walker with managing director Paul McNaughton



## Calling all bright sparks

**APPRENTICESHIPS** can be a great alternative to university, as Ben Walker knows. The 23-year-old from Fritwell has just completed a five-year apprenticeship with Radlins-based electrical firm Darke & Taylor.

He explained: "I have enjoyed the whole time."

"It's progressed me as a person and developed my ability through having to get up early every day and have a routine."

The five-year apprenticeship pupil added: "I have friends who finished university this year and we are pursuing the same career but I have no debt and have money saved by."

Ben received plenty of support from colleagues, most of whom have also been through the apprenticeship route. That includes managing director Paul McNaughton, who joined the firm as an apprentice 40 years ago.

He said: "Apprenticeships are coming back into vogue with parents and students who think I can go and get that qualification and get paid while I am doing it."

From 100 applicants, Darke & Taylor took 12 apprentices on this year, according to Kevin Richmond, who started there as a 16-year-old apprentice and is now electrically managing style as associate director.

He said: "Some young people think they are going to go to Alex Smith's house and repair his TV but that's not what we do. We are electrical contractors who work in buildings installing power and lighting, fire alarms, data, security and audio visual systems."

Five-year apprentice at Darke & Taylor says it is £3.20 an hour in the first year but will earn more, according to the Department for Business, Industry and Skills.

Apprenticeships are open to all ages and are also popular with over-25s who want to learn new skills and change career.

Greater support for more than 100 apprenticeship starts.

One in five advanced apprentices continue studying for HNCs or degrees.

Taylor says it is £4.70 an hour but this could reach £10.25 by the fourth year. Qualified electricians are expected to be on £23,000-£34,000, while electrical technicians earn about £16,000.

The growth in popularity and choice of apprenticeships has grown, together with more than two million apprenticeship starts in the UK during the past five years, according to government statistics.

Apprenticeships are available in more than 170 sectors including agriculture, construction, fashion, broadcast media and finance. And there are plenty of opportunities to keep learning, with one in five advanced apprentices working towards HNCs or distance learning degrees.

Oxfordshire Apprenticeships, run by Oxfordshire County Council, offers new links to local schools and secondary colleges.

Every Thursday you can have him

oxfordtimes.co.uk Thursday, November 5, 2015 OXFORD TIMES 53

## Bright spark Luke up for national award

**ADVERTISING FEATURE**

CLARKSON Evans apprentice Luke Mulan, who also volunteers as an apprenticeship ambassador in Oxfordshire, has been named as a finalist in the prestigious Electrical Industry Awards.

Clarkson Evans nominated Luke for the electrical apprentice of the year award as he is a first class electrical apprentice who has positively embraced his role as an Oxfordshire Apprenticeships Ambassador.

The Electrical Industry Awards, organised by the Electrical Times, are the longest running and most respected awards championing excellence across the electrical industry.

Melanie Ringer, skills officer of Oxfordshire Apprenticeships, said: "Luke is full of enthusiasm for his role and for apprenticeships in general and is really keen to share his experiences with other young people to help them make an informed career choice."

"Luke is an inspirational role model for young people who may be considering an apprenticeship. He is honest and easy to relate to. He clearly enjoys both working for Clarkson Evans and his apprenticeship, which shines through when he is talking about his experiences. I am delighted to have the opportunity to work with him as an apprenticeship ambassador."

Clarkson Evans is passionate about developing young people through electrical apprenticeships and aims to be a beacon of best practice in terms of apprenticeship development.

All electrical apprentices at Clarkson Evans are trained in-house at the company's own training centres.

Despite operating in an industry that was hit hard by the recession, the company has been steadily expanding in the last five years and now has 17 branches nationwide, including its Kidlington branch in Oxford.

The company practices what it preaches around vocational training and has recently been named as a regional winner in the large employer category at the National Apprenticeship Awards 2015.

"It's only by employing apprentices and training them in-house that we've been able to develop a dedicated workforce with the right skills," said Steve Evans, managing director.

"We always look for people who are keen to forge long-term careers with Clarkson Evans and many previous apprentices have grown with the company, taking on more responsibility and helping us maintain high levels of customer service as we continue to expand."

Clarkson Evans specialises in wiring new homes for the UK's leading housing developers, wiring around one in ten of all new properties built in England and Wales last year.

In total Clarkson Evans employs around 700 staff and operates across much of southern England, the Midlands and south Wales.

The company is actively recruiting apprentices in Oxfordshire. Current vacancies can be viewed at [www.clarksonevans.co.uk](http://www.clarksonevans.co.uk).



CLARKSON evans

## Apprenticeship Ambassador Photos



Sam Walker (L) and James Parfitt (R), Darke & Taylor, at the 2016 Oxfordshire Business Awards Launch



Sophie Jamieson & Emily Joyce, University of Oxford, at Henley College Careers Fair



Zoe Adams and Kieran Worrall, Jacob Douwe Egberts, at Chipping Norton School



Luke Mullan, Clarkson Evans (L), Sophie Jamieson, University of Oxford and James Parfitt, Darke & Taylor (R) at the Oxfordshire Business Awards Dinner 2015



Laura Cunningham, Oxfordshire County Council, with Prime Minister and MP for Witney David Cameron at Witney Apprenticeship Morning

Steph Rockett and Lucy Longford, Oxford City Council, at Oxfordshire Apprenticeships Roadshow in Cowley



Chay Fisher, ABC Oxford Ltd, at Chipping Norton School Careers Fair



Charlotte Cox, Oxfordshire County Council (L) and Helen Morris, British Gas (R) with Helen Calkin of Oxfordshire Apprenticeships at Bicester ApprenticesHOP



George Hall, CCFE, at the CCFE Apprenticeship Launchpad Session

## **Social Media**

To stay in touch with the Apprenticeship Ambassadors and keep up to date with their latest news and activities, follow them on Twitter @ApprenticesROx and like them on Facebook /ApprenticesROx. Don't forget to follow and like Oxfordshire Apprenticeships as well! Twitter @OxonApprentice and Facebook /OxfordshireApprenticeships.

## **Future Plans for 2016**

With the successes of the first two groups of Apprenticeship Ambassadors in 2015, Oxfordshire Apprenticeships are looking to train a third group in February 2016. Recruitment for the Ambassadors is currently underway and includes a range of new sectors, frameworks and backgrounds to better represent the diversity of Apprenticeships in Oxfordshire.

As always, the Oxfordshire Apprenticeships team and Ambassadors will be visiting schools to talk to students and present at careers events to raise awareness of the benefits of Apprenticeships with young people and their families. We are also planning to further develop the Ambassadors area on the Oxfordshire Apprenticeships website to include more videos and first-hand accounts of what it's like to be an Apprentice.

Are you interested in becoming an Apprenticeship Ambassador or are you an employer who would like to put an Apprentice forward to join the scheme? Would you like an Apprenticeship Ambassador to come and talk to your organisation? Get in touch with us at [info@oxfordshireapprenticeships.co.uk](mailto:info@oxfordshireapprenticeships.co.uk) to find out more.

Charlotte Cox  
Apprentice Administrative Officer  
December 2015