



OXFORDSHIRE  
**APPRENTICESHIP**  
*Awards* 2020

THURSDAY 1ST OCTOBER

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# PROGRAMME

We're sorry that we're not able to come together and celebrate in person the fantastic achievements of the Oxfordshire Apprenticeship Awards 2020 finalists. We hope that this virtual event will shine a spotlight on the county's talented apprentices and those who support them.

## Awards Categories

Oxford University Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust School Award  
OxLEP Skills Work Experience Employer of the Year Award  
Blenheim Higher Apprentice of the Year Award  
Nielsen Advanced Apprentice of the Year Award  
Abbott Diabetes Care Intermediate Apprentice of the Year Award  
Popham Hairdressing Special Recognition Award  
Clarkson Evans Apprenticeship Employer Award (50+ employees)  
The Burnside Partnership Apprenticeship Employer Award (<50 employees)  
University Print Studio Apprenticeship Employer Award (<10 employees)  
Integration Technology Ltd Shining Star Award  
Oxford Brookes University Apprenticeship Ambassador Award  
High Spec Composites Apprentice of the Year Award

Thank you for joining us to celebrate the achievements of the county's star Apprentices at the virtual Oxfordshire Apprenticeship Awards 2020. Congratulations to all the finalists!

 @OxonApprentice #OAAwards2020



# WELCOME

## WELCOME TO THE OXFORDSHIRE APPRENTICESHIP AWARDS 2020

On behalf of the Oxfordshire Local Enterprise Partnership (OxLEP) and our Skills Sub-group, I would like to welcome you all to this year's virtual Oxfordshire Apprenticeship Awards.

I'm sorry that we're not able to come together in person to celebrate the apprentices, employers, mentors and business leaders from right across the county who have benefited from an exciting apprenticeship programme and excelled in their own unique way.

Not just a 'viable option' for young people, apprenticeships provide the opportunity to gain new skills and on-the-job experience, whilst earning a fair wage and obtaining an industry-specific qualification.

There are currently hundreds of different types of apprenticeships available in Oxfordshire, covering a huge range of job roles. They each offer fantastic training opportunities to talented individuals and benefit businesses too, with new ideas helping them to stay ahead of their competitors.

An unrivalled way of building-up the skills of a workforce tailored to each business, apprenticeships also enable businesses to engage with education providers, helping individuals to be 'work ready' much earlier in their respective careers - this is a message reiterated in the Oxfordshire Local Industrial Strategy, launched last year.

Published in August, the OxLEP-led Oxfordshire Local Industrial Strategy Investment Plan sets out our skills ambitions in the 'people' pillar.

Our high-performing economy is globally-competitive across many key sectors, including a number of transformative technologies such as digital health, space and satellites, connected and autonomous vehicles and technologies underpinning quantum computing.

With such 'world-class' potential - on-top of a thriving small business community - we are home to thousands of outstanding businesses, meaning our apprentices are genuinely the recipients of experiences like no other.

I wish all of tonight's finalists the very best of luck and hope that your achievements will inspire someone to apply for an apprenticeship, or encourage a business to create one.

All that remains is for me to thank you for being part of tonight's event and wish you a fantastic evening - it's wonderful to see you receive the recognition you deserve.



**Nigel Tipple**  
CEO, Oxfordshire  
Local Enterprise  
Partnership



# ABOUT THE OXFORDSHIRE APPRENTICESHIP AWARDS

The Oxfordshire Apprenticeship Awards were introduced in 2017 to celebrate the achievements of our county's apprentices and recognise the contribution they make to Oxfordshire's economy and skills landscape. We have been overwhelmed by the quantity and quality of entries each year.

The awards also recognise schools, who play a crucial role in inspiring young people to consider and start an apprenticeship. They also celebrate the commitment of Oxfordshire's employers to providing high quality work experience and apprenticeship opportunities.

The awards are business-led and self-funded, with employers sponsoring the categories and other aspects of the celebratory event. Category sponsors judge the entries and present the awards on the night.

If your organisation is interested in becoming a sponsor for the 2021 awards, please contact Melanie Ringer at: [melanie.ringer@oxfordshirelep.com](mailto:melanie.ringer@oxfordshirelep.com)

## THE OXFORDSHIRE APPRENTICESHIP AWARDS COMMITTEE

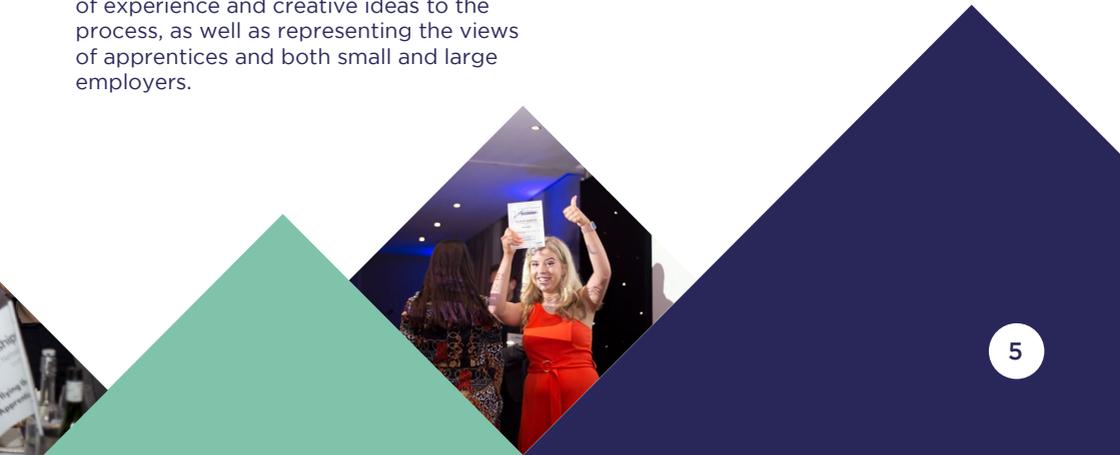
The Oxfordshire Apprenticeship Awards committee organise and run the awards and we'd like to thank them for their hard work and commitment to what is a year-round process.

The committee comprises of Sarah Jaycock from headline sponsor High Spec Composites, Simon Newton and Tanya Webb from Darke & Taylor, Apprentice of the Year 2019 Nairne Barker from Oxfordshire County Council and Sally Andreou and Melanie Ringer from OxLEP.

The committee members bring a wealth of experience and creative ideas to the process, as well as representing the views of apprentices and both small and large employers.



From left to right:  
Sally, Sarah, Nairne, Melanie, Tanya & Simon



# HEADLINE SPONSOR



## HIGH SPEC COMPOSITES

High Spec Composites is a leading composites company supplying high-specification carbon fibre components to a range of industries worldwide, specialising in components for Formula One. Our Executive Director, Sarah Jaycock, has been on the Oxfordshire Apprenticeship Awards committee since it was formed in 2017. As headline sponsor, we will select an overall Apprentice of the Year from the winners of the four Apprentice Award categories.

High Spec Composites is a keen advocate of apprenticeships, having grown the business through apprenticeship programmes since establishment in 2010. We have a 100% success rate with completion of qualifications and all of our apprentices have been offered full-time positions within High Spec Composites at the end of their learning.

Some of our more ambitious apprentices have progressed through the business into leadership and management roles and others, with support from High Spec, have launched into exciting roles within F1.

We have found employing apprentices is not only cost-effective solution for expanding a small business, but also the

perfect opportunity to train individuals to bespoke business needs.

High Spec has been a passionate supporter of the Oxfordshire Apprenticeship Awards, both as a committee member and sponsor, since the awards launched in 2017. Having grown our small business through apprenticeships, we understand the great benefits apprentices can bring to a company and are keen to share our positive experiences with a wider network whilst celebrating star apprentices throughout Oxfordshire.

We're very excited to be headline sponsor for 2020, as through our involvement in previous years we've had the pleasure of seeing first-hand just how beneficial and rewarding winning an Oxfordshire Apprenticeship Award can be.

Our overall winner will be an apprentice who excels within their position and continually exceeds employer expectations. We're looking for an individual with ambition and a great work ethic!

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



# OUR HOST: SIMON NEWTON

When not hosting, Simon is Managing Director of Darke & Taylor, an established local electrical business providing design, installation and maintenance services.

Darke & Taylor's Apprenticeship scheme and their Apprentices have won numerous awards and the scheme itself has been in existence for over 50 years. The company has sponsored the Oxfordshire

Apprenticeship Awards since their foundation in 2017.

Simon is a strong advocate of Apprenticeships and in addition to his day job is Chair of the Thames Valley Apprenticeship Ambassador Network for employers.

Simon is delighted to host tonight's awards and is really honoured to help celebrate and recognise

the talent of Apprentices throughout Oxfordshire.



## AWARDS SPONSOR: DARKE & TAYLOR

The Apprenticeship initiative at Darke & Taylor has evolved over time to become the cornerstone on which the company and its progression is founded. Today it is a vital part of the business model of a company that recognises that success is about developing people.

Our scheme is special because it really delivers; over 50% of our senior management and the majority of our senior engineers completed their Apprenticeships with the company and at any one time up to 25% of the workforce are working towards an apprenticeship.

Our Apprentices and our scheme have won awards and we know what a positive impact this has on our business, which

makes us all the more keen to support our local awards. We are delighted to be sponsoring the Oxfordshire Apprenticeship Awards for the fourth year running.

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E: [mail@darkeandtaylor.co.uk](mailto:mail@darkeandtaylor.co.uk)  
[darkeandtaylor.co.uk](http://darkeandtaylor.co.uk)



# ABOUT OXLEP SKILLS

Oxfordshire Local Enterprise Partnership (OxLEP) is a business-led partnership between local authorities, education providers and private sector businesses. OxLEP plays a central role in determining local economic priorities, undertakes activities that drive economic growth, creates jobs and increases workforce skills within the local area.

Led by OxLEP, the Oxfordshire Local Industrial Strategy Investment Plan, published in August, aims to deliver 24,500 jobs, 2,700 qualifications and create support for over 41,000 young and adult learners by 2030.

Local people are at the heart of our ambition – ensuring a suitably qualified and skilled workforce is key to achieving sustainable growth. OxLEP Skills aims to strengthen and optimise links between employers and educators, enabling young people to become work ready, building awareness of the skills needed in local businesses and how to obtain them.

We support young people, their parents/guardians, schools and employers to maximise opportunity for economic growth and to improve social mobility.

We do this by:

- Promoting the value of apprenticeships, industry placements and work experience to young people, educators and employers
- Creating and managing strong relationships between education providers and employers through

the Careers & Enterprise Company's 'Enterprise Advisor Network'

- Supporting work experience placements for around 5000 young people across more than 30 schools
- Raising awareness and aspirations of students, Careers Leaders and local people by providing high quality labour market intelligence
- Supporting SMEs to identify and address their skills gaps and requirements, including upskilling their current workforce
- Partnering with growth industry sectors – space, creative & digital, advanced engineering, retail, visitor and health
- Working across government departments to leverage investment and support

If you are an employer and interested in knowing more about how your business could work with local schools and colleges, our team would be delighted to help and support. Time commitment is flexible to meet your business needs. Get in touch for a no obligation discussion.

Sally Andreou  
Skills Hub Manager

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[www.oxfordshirelep.com/skills](http://www.oxfordshirelep.com/skills)



# OUR SPONSORS & SUPPORTERS

## WITH SPECIAL THANKS TO OUR SPONSORS & SUPPORTERS

A huge thank you to all the generous sponsors and supporters, particularly our headline sponsor High Spec Composites, who have made the Oxfordshire Apprenticeship Awards possible. Your support is very much appreciated.



# OXFORDSHIRE APPRENTICESHIP AWARDS 2019



# SCHOOL AWARD

## SPONSORED BY OXFORD UNIVERSITY HOSPITALS NHS FOUNDATION TRUST

Oxford University Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust is a large teaching hospital and a world class research centre, employing 13,000 staff. Currently 180 apprentices are training in various programmes from intermediate to degree level.

This award will be given to a school that promotes apprenticeships to students and their parents/carers as a viable and credible post-16 option. The school will have a wide ranging and inclusive careers programme, engaging with employers in innovative ways to inform and inspire students.

We are honoured to celebrate the achievements of schools who have excelled to support young people to make career

choices, or individuals who have had barriers to overcome to achieve their journey and whose victories are not so easily won.

T: 0300 304 7777  
E: [apprenticeships@ouh.nhs.uk](mailto:apprenticeships@ouh.nhs.uk)  
[www.ouh.nhs.uk](http://www.ouh.nhs.uk)



## FINALISTS

### **Carterton Community College**

Apprenticeships play a big part in a broad, inclusive careers programme at Carterton Community College. The school has strong links with local employers - including their Enterprise Advisor - who regularly visit to advise students of all ages on apprenticeships and support older year groups with applications. Opportunities are shared with parents as well as students, enabling them to be informed and involved.

### **Icknield Community College**

Icknield Community College has worked hard to ensure a solid and stable careers programme is in place for all year groups, that is able to adapt and change with the job market. Good business connections are utilised in subject areas to enhance the curriculum and make students aware of career choices, including apprenticeships. The school has seen a 200% increase in the number of school leavers starting apprenticeships.

### **King Alfred's Academy**

King Alfred's Academy regularly invite a wide range of employers into school to talk to students about apprenticeship opportunities, as well as former students to share their experiences with current students and parents. Employers are supported and appreciated, resulting in a strong working relationship. Students of all levels, needs and abilities receive strong 1:1 support and guidance to find the right opportunity for them.

# WORK EXPERIENCE EMPLOYER OF THE YEAR



## SPONSORED BY OXLEP SKILLS

The OxLEP Skills work experience team works with schools across Oxfordshire to provide work experience placements for around 5000 students each year. We also provide free support for employers, including a health and safety visit from our NEBOSH qualified staff.

We are delighted to sponsor this new award because it recognises the importance of work experience in the apprenticeship journey, with many employers reporting that they have recruited an apprentice following a successful work experience placement.

The award will be given to an employer that has exceeded normal standards and expectations in providing high-quality, meaningful work experience placements for

a variety of learners, that make a difference both to the learners and the business.

T: 01865 897189  
E: [skills@oxfordshirelep.com](mailto:skills@oxfordshirelep.com)  
[www.oxfordshirelep.com/skills](http://www.oxfordshirelep.com/skills)



## FINALISTS

### Jewson Oxford

Jewson Oxford started offering work experience placements in May 2011 and have provided over 50 placements in the last 5 years. Their structured and supportive programme gives students a broad view of the business and ensures that they are active members of the team. Current staff benefit too, gaining valuable mentoring skills and taking great pride in 'showing the ropes' to the next generation.

### Olamalu

Olamalu have been offering work experience placements since they started trading in June 2010. They have provided 32 placements in the last 4 years, to learners from a variety of schools and colleges. Placements are hands-on, giving learners a real sense of what the job entails. Placements are well structured and supported and include opportunities to gain career-readiness skills, such as presentation and interview skills.

### The Barr Group

The Barr Group hosted their first work experience student in 2008. They have consistently provided placements in a variety of roles since and have taken on several placement students as apprentices. Students are contacted in advance to discuss their aims and interests to ensure the placement is relevant and meaningful. Learners are given specific projects which they can take ownership of, overseen by a supportive mentor.



# HIGHER APPRENTICE OF THE YEAR

## SPONSORED BY BLENHEIM

Apprenticeships are highly valued at Blenheim. We have a 10-year plan in place to employ 100 apprentices across the Estate.

We support the Oxfordshire Apprenticeship Awards to celebrate what apprentices achieve individually as well as raising awareness of how vital it is for local businesses to support apprenticeships.

We have chosen to sponsor the Higher Apprentice Award because we want to recognise those who have continued with apprenticeships and really used them to maximize and develop their career.

Our award will be given to someone who has worked extremely hard and is an ambassador for their local community and

for apprenticeships in Oxfordshire, who is dedicated and has made a big impact on their employer.

T: 01993 810530

E: [customerservice@blenheimpalace.com](mailto:customerservice@blenheimpalace.com)

[www.blenheimpalace.com](http://www.blenheimpalace.com)



## FINALISTS

### **Mandy Hallifax, Oxford University Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust**

In Mandy's role as a specialist nurse sonographer / ANP trainee, she cares for patients suffering with early pregnancy complications. In addition to her compassion and dedication to work and study, Mandy has demonstrated huge commitment to improving patient care. She was instrumental in setting up an alternative early pregnancy service in the community, which she spoke about at a Royal College of Nursing conference.

### **Aden Rawlings, Nielsen**

During his time as a Degree Apprentice at Nielsen, Aden's drive and positive attitude have shone through. He gets involved in all areas of the business, both commercially and amongst the wider team. One of Aden's significant achievements was his involvement in the setup of an Employee Resource Group called ADEPT - Able and Disabled Employees Partnering Together. Aden has also applied to become a Mental Health First Aider.

### **Amy Stirton, Oxford University Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust**

Nursing Associate Trainee Amy assists surgeons at the Horton Hospital in a variety of operations and procedures. Amy was contacted by Health Education England to become a Nursing Associate Trainee Ambassador, developing a peer support network across the UK and presenting to a range of audiences. Amy is always smiling, extremely hard working, takes time to help others and is a fantastic team player.

# ADVANCED APPRENTICE OF THE YEAR



## SPONSORED BY NIELSEN

Nielsen is a global measurement and data analytics company that provides a complete and trusted view of consumers and markets across more than 100 countries.

We launched our first apprenticeship programme in 2014 - our Level 5 Apprenticeship in Business Innovation and Growth. Since then we have introduced apprenticeships at Level 3 and Level 6, with our degree apprentices completing three-year rotations around the business whilst studying for a BA (hons) degree in Business and Management practice.

We have chosen to sponsor the Oxfordshire Apprenticeship Awards as we believe they highlight to the wider Oxfordshire business community the

value apprentices bring to organisations and can encourage businesses to support local people through apprenticeship programmes.

For more information visit:  
[www.nielsen.com/us/en/contact-us](http://www.nielsen.com/us/en/contact-us)



## FINALISTS

### **Melissa Chigubu, GKN Automotive**

Melissa's role as an eDrive Apprentice involves development of all aspects of the electrical drive system. Her hard work, dedication and exceptional skills were recognised when she was named one of the Top 50 Young Women in Engineering by the Women in Engineering Society. Melissa is an outstanding ambassador who is passionate about inspiring other young women into engineering and promoting diversity and inclusivity in the field.

### **Kerrie-Jo O'Flynn, Oxford Space Systems**

At just 18 years old, Manufacturing Assembly Integration and Testing (MAIT) Technician Apprentice K-Jo was selected to be the head engineer of assemblies for new innovative products for space. K-Jo is a fantastic ambassador for both engineering and apprenticeships, taking part in a wide range of activities and initiatives, including the national 'Fire It Up' campaign, to encourage young people, particularly young women, to consider a career in engineering.

### **Sophie Pomroy, Oxford University Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust**

Sophie is an Organisational Development Apprentice at the John Radcliffe Hospital. In addition to being outstanding at her job, she led and developed a young apprentice network for OUH to provide a supportive environment and empower apprentices. She recently won a silver Skills for Health Award in recognition of her hard work and going the extra mile to support and inspire other young people.



# INTERMEDIATE APPRENTICE OF THE YEAR

## SPONSORED BY ABBOTT DIABETES CARE

Abbott Diabetes Care develop healthcare solutions, from next-generation diagnostic tools that put patients on the path to better health sooner to trusted medicines that help people of all ages stay active and vital.

T: 0800 170 1177  
www.abbott.co.uk

We have employed apprentices for over 20 years, with most of our apprentices still working with us. Our apprentices help move our business forward and we are looking at how we can expand our scheme to take more.

Our award will be given to an enthusiastic and committed individual who has embraced the opportunity to mix learning and work experience to deepen their knowledge and understanding and who has demonstrated the ability to take their learning and apply it in the workplace.



## FINALISTS

### **Teya Agnese, University of Oxford**

Teya is an Apprentice Clinical Trial Support Officer, efficiently supporting her team to run a varied and growing portfolio of clinical trials. In addition to doing an outstanding job, Teya goes the extra mile to champion and promote apprenticeships. She regularly writes inspiring blogs both for her department and the University and takes part in a range of activities as an Apprenticeship Ambassador to inform and inspire other young people.

### **Simon Cooper, Activate Learning**

Project Administration Apprentice Simon plays a critical role in The Department for Work and Pensions flagship welfare to work programme, successfully re-engaging the most difficult participants. Simon is diligent, trusted, hardworking and a well-liked team player who is always smiling. He recently delivered an inspiring presentation at a Dispelling Disability Myths in the Workplace conference to encourage more employers to become disability confident.

### **Deanne Hope-Fowler, Jury's Inn Oxford**

Meetings and Events Sales Office Manager Deanne has grown in confidence and knowledge throughout her apprenticeship, resulting in her greatest achievement – being promoted to head of department and establishing her team. Deanne continues to promote apprenticeships and support those coming up the ranks. She is inquisitive, empathetic and a fast learner, who is highly esteemed by both her customers and colleagues.

# SPECIAL RECOGNITION AWARD

## SPONSORED BY POPHAM HAIRDRESSING

Popham Hairdressing is the only UK hairdressing company to be awarded Champion Investor in People.

We have a compassionate commitment to our apprentices and have worked with individuals to overcome low self-esteem whilst actively encouraging them to excel in their careers.

Our directors and training manager are always on hand to guide them and ensure our delivery of the scheme is exemplary.

Our apprentice, Libby Orum, was Highly Commended in the Special Recognition Award in 2019 and we decided to sponsor this category for 2020, having seen how much it meant to her and how important it is to recognise apprentices who have

overcome challenges and their dedication, commitment and strength.

T: 03300 415480  
E: [appointments@popham.com](mailto:appointments@popham.com)  
[www.popham.com](http://www.popham.com)



## FINALISTS

### **Kameca Gayle, Oxfordshire County Council**

Business Administration Apprentice Kameca is the financial lead for her team and has implemented a standardised financial process to help the council run more smoothly and efficiently. She has overcome challenges with anxiety to become a confident, well-respected and admired colleague and inspirational apprentice. Kameca received a commendation from her employer for being the 'most valuable person' – a testament to all she has achieved.

### **William Meredith, Taylor Wimpey Oxfordshire**

Apprentice Carpenter William has made incredible progress since joining the team. He shows commitment, strength of character and determination, getting up at 5am every day to commute to work. In spite of facing extremely challenging circumstances in his life which have impacted on his mental health, William strives every day to succeed and fulfil his ambition to become a fully-qualified carpenter with Taylor Wimpey.

### **Autumn Walsh, Oxfordshire County Council**

Autumn works on The House Project, an alternative housing pathway for 16-17 year old care leavers. She is hard working, enthusiastic and passionate about improving life chances for young people in care through her work and volunteering. Autumn is an inspirational role model for the young people she supports through her work and a shining example to encourage other employers to offer opportunities to care leavers.



# APPRENTICESHIP EMPLOYER OF THE YEAR

(50+ EMPLOYEES)

## SPONSORED BY CLARKSON EVANS

Clarkson Evans is the UK's leading electrical contractor and electrical training specialist. We employ around 250 Electrical Apprentices in our business and over the years this training has played a fundamental part in our success story. All of our apprentices are trained in-house at our purpose-built centres and we offer them a long-term career with opportunities to progress into supervisory roles.

Based on our previous involvement in the Oxfordshire Apprenticeship Awards, we've seen how they showcase the best local employers and training providers and the high calibre of the county's most talented apprentices. We're looking forward to meeting other large apprenticeship employers and celebrating their commitment to apprenticeships.

T: 01452 530336  
E: oxford@clarkson-evans.co.uk  
www.clarkson-evans.co.uk



## FINALISTS

### **Oxford Health NHS Foundation Trust**

Oxford Health NHS Foundation Trust provides physical, mental health and social care for people of all ages. They started employing apprentices in 2018 and now employ over 300 in a wide range of roles, up to level 7. All apprentices have a permanent role in the Trust and on successful completion of their apprenticeship can move to an increased pay band within the NHS pay scheme.

### **Oxford University Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust**

OxUH is a world-renowned centre of clinical excellence and one of the largest NHS teaching trusts in the UK, currently employing 257 apprentices. Through their social mobility agenda, OxUH strives to represent the population they serve and work closely with schools and the local community to encourage people from a diverse range of backgrounds to apply. 85% of Apprentices secure permanent employment within the Trust.

### **Thames Valley Police**

In 2015, Thames Valley Police embarked on an ambitious programme for enhancing apprenticeships within the organisation, becoming a training provider in 2017. They currently employ 267 apprentices in a wide variety of roles, with the Police Constable Degree Apprenticeship soon to be introduced. TVP works closely with schools and colleges and promotes 'apprenticeships for all' at a variety of careers and community events, encouraging diversity in the workplace.

# APPRENTICESHIP EMPLOYER OF THE YEAR

(<50 EMPLOYEES)



## SPONSORED BY THE BURNSIDE PARTNERSHIP

The Burnside Partnership is a solicitors practice providing legal services to private individuals, specialising in wills, family trust, probate and inheritance tax work. We are seen by many as the modern version of the 'family solicitor'.

We have employed apprentices since opening for business in 2015 and they are absolutely central to both our current business and our future plans.

As winners of this award in 2019, we are thrilled to be supporting the 2020 Oxfordshire Apprenticeship Awards, which celebrate both talented apprentices and the firms which allow them to prosper. We are sponsoring this award because we believe it is important to recognise the role played by smaller companies who support

and develop apprentices within their organisations.

T: 01865 900572

E: [info@theburnsidepartnership.com](mailto:info@theburnsidepartnership.com)

[www.theburnsidepartnership.com](http://www.theburnsidepartnership.com)



## FINALISTS

### Computer Assistance

Computer Assistance is a leading IT service provider, developing software and providing IT support. They have offered a variety of apprenticeship roles since 2010. Apprentices are encouraged to develop within a supportive environment, alongside an experienced mentor, typically becoming full time employees on completion. The company is keen to inspire and encourage the next generation, working closely with local schools and organisations.

### Ignite Sport UK

Ignite Sport UK delivers PE and sport in primary schools in Oxfordshire, as well as a range of football programmes. They started employing apprentices in 2008 and over 25% of their current employees are apprentices, who receive exceptional training and support. Ignite has a close relationship with local schools and is proud to be inclusive, working with special schools and educational units to encourage a diverse range of applicants.

### Olamalu

Web technology company Olamalu started employing apprentices in 2014. 50% of the workforce are current or former apprentices. In addition to their apprentice training, all apprentices participate in an internal skills development programme and are paired with a mentor for support. Olamalu work closely with local schools to inspire the next generation and are particularly passionate about encouraging young women to consider a tech career.



# APPRENTICESHIP EMPLOYER OF THE YEAR

(<10 EMPLOYEES)



## SPONSORED BY UNIVERSITY PRINT STUDIO

Equipped with the latest full-colour digital printers, the University Print Studio has a proven track record of delivering quality printing and finishing services that support and enhance brand reputation.

The team know how rewarding it is to be recognised with an award, having won the 'Apprenticeship Manager's Special Award' at the University of Oxford Apprenticeships Expo and Awards in recognition of our contribution to promoting apprenticeships.

We are proud to support this opportunity to celebrate commitment to apprenticeships. Many of our creative partners and suppliers are micro businesses and so we want to sponsor this award in recognition of the fact that you don't have to be a huge company to make a valuable

contribution to apprenticeships.

T: 01865 270029

E: [printstudio@admin.ox.ac.uk](mailto:printstudio@admin.ox.ac.uk)  
[estates.admin.ox.ac.uk/print-studio](http://estates.admin.ox.ac.uk/print-studio)



## FINALISTS

### Chris Evans Witney

Chris Evans Witney employed a Caravan and Motorhome Maintenance and Repair Apprentice in February 2019. Partners Chris and Linda are planning to retire in the next 5 years and are supporting apprentice Jacob to take over the business and continue providing fantastic service to their valued customers. They have given Jacob the unique opportunity to prepare for running a business through his apprenticeship.

### The Money Consultancy Limited

The Money Consultancy offers advice on a range of mortgages, protection and insurance. Principal Mary employs 5 staff and has employed 4 apprentices since 2016. Apprentices receive exceptional mentoring and support, along with opportunities for additional training. The company prides itself on guiding apprentices through their careers and providing the tools and experience they require to progress within the business on completion.

### The Skincare Clinic

Successful beauty salon The Skincare Clinic provides apprentices with exceptional hands-on training, under the care of highly experienced and knowledgeable mentors. A range of additional courses and product training is available to all apprentices, to help them develop skills above and beyond their apprenticeship training. As a former apprentice, Salon Manager Emma is an inspirational role model to the next generation of beauty therapists.

# SHINING STAR AWARD

## SPONSORED BY INTEGRATION TECHNOLOGY LTD

Integration Technology Ltd is a pioneering designer and developer of ultra-violet curing solutions for ink jet printing, as well as other emerging technologies.

We have been a long-time supporter not only of the Oxfordshire Apprenticeship Awards but of apprenticeships in general. We look at apprenticeships as a means of recruitment and have rolled out various programmes over the years. Our CEO Adrian Lockwood is a former apprentice and very proud to be one. He is also Chair of the Oxfordshire Skills Board and passionate about supporting young people to start a successful career and encouraging local businesses to see how apprenticeships can help them meet their skills requirements.

The Shining Star Award and its criteria fits the ethos Integration Technology promotes around apprenticeships.

T: 01869 233611

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[www.uvintegration.com](http://www.uvintegration.com)



## FINALISTS

### **Jack Dobson, Oxford University Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust**

Jack started with OUH as a Laboratory Support Worker Apprentice in November 2017. He is positive, efficient, trustworthy and always happy. Proactive in his own learning and that of others, Jack is now in his second year of a biomedical science degree and has supported 6 new apprentices at different stages of their development. He is a fantastic ambassador for both apprenticeships and biomedical science.

### **Katie Lay, South Oxfordshire District Council**

Katie completed both level 2 and 3 business administration apprenticeships within the Facilities Admin Team in January 2018. Her proudest achievement is that she now manages the team she started off in as an apprentice 5 years ago. Katie is dedicated, supportive and provides an ambassadorial message to others that apprenticeships bring a real opportunity not only to become part of a team but also as a step up to leadership.

### **Luke Mattam, Oxfordshire County Council**

Luke has completed both ICT and Business Administration Apprenticeships with Oxfordshire County Council and is now working towards his third - a level 6 degree apprenticeship in chartered management. He is a loyal and dedicated team player who takes on every challenge with a positive and proactive attitude, whilst nurturing and inspiring his team. Luke is a great advocate for apprenticeships and attends many careers events.

# APPRENTICESHIP AMBASSADOR OF THE YEAR

## SPONSORED BY OXFORD BROOKES UNIVERSITY

Oxford Brookes is one of the UK's leading modern universities and enjoys an international reputation for teaching excellence and innovation as well as strong links with business and industry. We deliver a number of apprenticeship standards from level 5 to 7 and in the 2019/20 academic year we will train around 350 apprentices.

We are keen to support and highlight the work that the Apprenticeship Ambassadors do in promoting apprenticeships as a valued and respected career path.

We understand how influential it can be for current apprentices to talk to young people about their choices for the future.

This award will be given to one of Oxfordshire's Apprenticeship Ambassadors

who has gone the extra mile to spread the apprenticeship word across the county.

T: 01865 484944  
E: [apprentices@brookes.ac.uk](mailto:apprentices@brookes.ac.uk)  
[www.brookes.ac.uk](http://www.brookes.ac.uk)



## OXFORDSHIRE APPRENTICESHIP AMBASSADORS

The Oxfordshire Apprenticeship Ambassador scheme was launched in 2015. Our Ambassadors are current and former apprentices from a variety of sectors, who work with the OxLEP Skills team to help young people and their families and employers to understand the benefits of apprenticeships. Their role includes:

- Engaging and informing young people, parents/carers and school Career Leaders
- Sharing their experience at skills/careers events about what it's really like to be an apprentice
- Talking about their industry sector and opportunities for career progression
- Communicating their workplace experience via local media coverage such as TV, radio and printed publications

The Apprenticeship Ambassadors here with us this evening have all made an exceptional commitment to being an ambassador and we'd like to thank them for their hard work and enthusiasm. We would like to take this opportunity to not only thank our amazing ambassadors but to also thank their employers for their support and flexibility.

The benefits to employers in having an Apprenticeship Ambassador is that they can promote your business and apprenticeship scheme to large cohorts of young people. It's an ideal way to ensure your talent pipeline and become an employer of choice!

Find out how you, or your apprentices can become an ambassador, visit: [www.oxfordshireapprenticeships.co.uk/content/ambassadors](http://www.oxfordshireapprenticeships.co.uk/content/ambassadors)

# DESIGN & PRINT

## UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD PRINT STUDIO



A huge thank you to the University of Oxford Print Studio – Bob, Jason, Chris, Renaud, Imogen, Andy and Jordan - for their generous support with design and print for the Oxfordshire Apprenticeship Awards.

Imogen Taylor joined the print studio team this year and says of her role as a Business Administration Apprentice: “I am lucky enough to be the first Business Administration Apprentice in the print

studio. No two working days are the same and the on-the-job training means that I am learning new skills all the time. I particularly like that the role is diverse and busy with lots of customer interaction. I cannot believe how time has flown by since I started. I am looking forward developing my administration skills which will enable me to have a variety of job roles in the future and a satisfying and progressive career.”

As Bob Malloy, Print Studio Manager says: “It’s a real privilege to be actively involved in the Apprenticeship Awards again this year. Jordan Morris, Apprentice of the Year 2019, will again be designing and printing the certificates whilst Imogen supports the team in an administrative role. Both Jordan and Imogen are actively involved as ambassadors visiting schools and passing on their enthusiasm for this worthwhile scheme. We are proud of the work they are doing.”

## EMMA DAVIS



Oxfordshire based Illustrator and Designer Emma Davis, 23, volunteered to design the fantastic Oxfordshire Apprenticeship Awards logo and branding back in 2017.

The stylish logo design depicting both the rural and city aspects of Oxfordshire

within a star to represent the shining star Apprentices who are recognised by the Awards.

Emma has always been passionate about Design from favouring Art as a topic at school to studying a Level 3 Diploma in Art & Design at the City of Oxford College in 2013. Emma has since been putting her love of artwork into printed and web-based products; designing and editing for a diverse range of projects and continuing work for the Oxfordshire Apprenticeship Awards.

We can’t thank Emma enough for all her hard work and creative genius! View more of Emma’s work at [www.designems.com](http://www.designems.com)

# AWARDS SPONSORS & SUPPORTERS

## SST TECHNOLOGY



SST Technology is an engineering business specialising in the design and manufacture of bespoke, advanced precision fabrications and thermal management systems for high tech industries. Products

are used in harsh environments where extreme temperatures, highly corrosive conditions and severe vibration loads are experienced. We are a fast-growing company, investing in new technologies and also investing in people to support the company's growth plans. We started our apprenticeship programme in 2013 to help meet our skills needs and have found that our apprentices add a whole new dimension to our workplace, bringing a fresh perspective and new ideas.

We are proud to support the Oxfordshire Apprenticeship Awards and celebrate the achievements of local apprentices and the dedication of their employers.

T: 01865 731018  
E: [info@sstubetechnology.com](mailto:info@sstubetechnology.com)  
[www.sstubetechnology.com](http://www.sstubetechnology.com)

## SOUTH EAST APPRENTICESHIP AMBASSADOR NETWORK

The South East Apprenticeship Ambassador Network (SEAN) is of a group of employers whose main aim is to spearhead the drive to engage new employers to commit to apprenticeship delivery across SE England.

Ambassadors undertake their role, on a voluntary basis, by supporting and influencing a wide range of key stakeholders including schools, colleges, employers and their supply chains, trade associations and employment bodies.

They champion and support marketing, publicity and events to raise awareness of apprenticeships. They also provide mentoring and support for employers looking to recruit apprentices for the first time.

There is also a well-established Young



Apprenticeship Ambassador Network (YAAN) attached to the SEAN. The YAAN helps to promote Apprenticeships to young people.

[sean.org.uk](http://sean.org.uk)

# AWARDS SPONSORS & SUPPORTERS

## UK ATOMIC ENERGY AUTHORITY



The UK Atomic Energy Authority (UKAEA) is proud to sponsor the Oxfordshire Apprenticeship Awards 2020. Apprentices have always been a very important part of our strategy for training the next generation of engineers and technicians

and more recently many other business disciplines. The UKAEA apprenticeship scheme has been operating successfully since 1947. Maintaining high-quality training delivery is a major factor to the successful operation of our facility. UKAEA recognise that a highly skilled workforce is more effective and innovative and brings added gains beyond these including excellent organisational image and staff retention.

We wish to inspire the next generation and enthuse young people about the exciting and rewarding career opportunities available through apprenticeship training.

T: 01235 466365

E: [enquiries@apprenticeshipscheme.ukaea.uk](mailto:enquiries@apprenticeshipscheme.ukaea.uk)

[www.culhamapprenticeshipscheme.com](http://www.culhamapprenticeshipscheme.com)

## MANUFACTURING TECHNOLOGY CENTRE

The Manufacturing Technology Centre (MTC) was established in 2010 as an independent Research & Technology Organisation with the objective of bridging the gap between academia and industry.

The MTC provides first class apprenticeship training for hundreds of future engineers and technicians at Oxfordshire Advanced Skills (OAS), a partnership between the UK Atomic Energy Authority and the Science and Technology Facilities Council, based at the Culham Science Centre near Abingdon.

The Advanced Manufacturing Training Centre at OAS equips apprentices not only with core engineering skills but also the latest advanced manufacturing techniques.

We are proud to support the Oxfordshire Apprenticeship Awards and help recognise the value of apprenticeships.



T: 02476 701600

E: [training@the-mtc.org](mailto:training@the-mtc.org)  
[www.the-mtc.org](http://www.the-mtc.org)

# AWARDS SPONSORS & SUPPORTERS

## SKILLS FOR BUSINESS



Oxfordshire Skills for Business provides up to 12 hours of free, practical support to small and medium sized enterprises (SMEs) to identify and address their skills

and learning needs. The programme is part-funded by the European Social Fund. The team conduct a detailed Skills Needs Assessment with each business to identify their skills gaps and training needs. They then research options and opportunities and produce a comprehensive, bespoke Training and Development Plan to advise and guide the business.

Apprenticeships play a key part in staff development and business growth for SMEs and so Oxfordshire Skills for Business is delighted to recognise and celebrate them as a sponsor of the Oxfordshire Apprenticeship Awards 2020.

T: 01865 897189  
E: Skills4Business@oxfordshirelep.com  
www.oxfordshirelep.com/sfb

## OXFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

Oxfordshire County Council is committed to delivering quality services and value for money on behalf of the county's 600,000+ residents. We put residents at the heart of everything we do and our approach to supporting thriving communities is as diverse as they are.

We have been employing apprentices since 2006 and recruited our 400th apprentice in 2019. Our apprentices improve our services and help our organisation go from strength to strength.

We offer a wide range of apprenticeships from level 2 to level 7 in fields as diverse as Occupational Therapist, Solicitor and Civil Engineer.

We are proud to support the Oxfordshire Apprenticeship Awards, which are a great opportunity for employers to celebrate



their apprentices and recognise the people who work hard to make apprenticeships happen.

T: 01865 792422  
www.oxfordshire.gov.uk



 @OxonApprentice  
#OAAwards2020