



OXFORDSHIRE  
**APPRENTICESHIP**  
*Awards* 2021

THURSDAY 6TH MAY

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# PROGRAMME

We're delighted that we're able to come together - albeit virtually - to celebrate the fantastic achievements of the Oxfordshire Apprenticeship Awards 2021 finalists.

This 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 School Engagement Employer Award  
Blenheim Higher Apprentice Award  
Nielsen Advanced Apprentice Award  
Abbott Diabetes Care Intermediate Apprentice Award  
Popham Hairdressing Special Recognition Award  
Clarkson Evans Apprenticeship Employer Award (250+ employees)  
The Burnside Partnership Apprenticeship Employer Award (<250 employees)  
Integration Technology Ltd Shining Star Award  
Oxford Brookes University Apprenticeship Champion Award  
High Spec Composites Apprentice Award

Thank you for joining us to celebrate the achievements of the county's star Apprentices at the virtual Oxfordshire Apprenticeship Awards 2021. Congratulations to all the finalists!

 @OxonApprentice #OAAwards2021



# WELCOME

## WELCOME TO THE OXFORDSHIRE APPRENTICESHIP AWARDS 2021

On behalf of 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 delighted that this event is able to take place to celebrate the apprentices, employers, mentors and business leaders from across the county who have benefited from an exciting apprenticeship programme and excelled in their own unique way. Similar to last year, I think this year's awards takes on particular significance given the impact Coronavirus has had on businesses of all sizes and sectors.

The fact that tonight's finalists – like many in Oxfordshire – have persevered and continued to either deliver or engage with apprenticeship programmes, is real credit to the thousands of people in the county who benefit from these schemes, whether it's a business finding new talent for their organisation, or a young person making the most of an outstanding learning opportunity.

Apprenticeships provide young people with 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.

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.

As was demonstrated through the creation of the Oxford-AstraZeneca COVID-19 vaccine, as a county, Oxfordshire has a reputation of 'leading the way', so, my message to tonight's finalists – particularly our apprentices – is that there's a world of opportunities waiting for you right on your doorstep, and this is just the first step.

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 careers activities 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 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 2020 Teya Agnese from the University of Oxford 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:  
Sarah, Simon, Tanya, Melanie, Teya and Sally



# 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 FI.

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 2021, 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!

T: 01869 243254

E: [enq@hscomposites.co.uk](mailto:enq@hscomposites.co.uk)

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



# OUR HOSTS

## TEYA AGNESE

Teya is a University of Oxford Apprentice working as a Clinical Trial Support Officer in the Surgical Intervention Trials Unit (SITU), part of the Nuffield Department of Orthopaedics, Rheumatology and Musculoskeletal Sciences (NDORMS). She is studying a Level 3 Business Administration Apprenticeship with Abingdon & Witney College.

Teya was chosen as the overall Apprentice of the Year 2020 for going above and beyond in her role as well as going the extra mile as an Apprenticeship Ambassador.

Teya says: "I am delighted to have been invited to be a part of the Oxfordshire Apprenticeship Awards 2021 committee and to co-host this year's virtual awards ceremony, to celebrate so many

talented apprentices and businesses that support apprenticeships."



## 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 co-host tonight's awards and is really honoured to help celebrate and recognise the talent of apprentices throughout Oxfordshire.

# 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.

Oxfordshire has been a strongly performing economy, with strong economic growth across a range of high-value sectors. However, this economic success has led to a traditionally tight labour market, which is currently a little more flexible due to COVID-19 but is predicted to contract back within 12 months.

Oxfordshire has a well-established skills eco-system that has supported recent growth in our innovative clusters which we need to maintain in the post-Brexit era. With a truly global workforce drawn by a high quality of life, world class research and a range of employment options we aim to help Oxfordshire to focus on retaining the existing skills of our businesses whilst focussing on ensuring that the present and next generation have access to the skills businesses need - both current and projected.

Local people are at the heart of our ambition - ensuring that all sections of society are benefitting from Oxfordshire's growth and increased economic success. Our strategic priorities include a more integrated and employer led approach to skills and training development; continued and co-ordinated support for young people at the start of their employment journey (including T Levels and apprenticeship support for those furthest from the labour market); and improving the retention rate, both vocational and graduate, of those who have learnt in the county, to stay and have thriving careers here.

If you are interested in how OxLEP Skills can help you, please get in touch.

Sally Andreou  
Skills Hub Manager

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



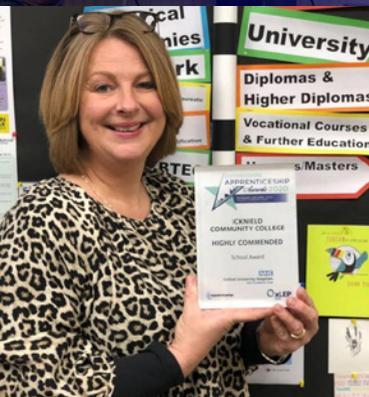
# OUR SPONSORS & SUPPORTERS

## 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 2020



# 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 460 apprentices are training in various programmes from intermediate to degree level.

The School Award recognises schools that promote apprenticeships to students and their parents/carers as a viable and credible post-16 option, as part of a wide ranging and inclusive careers programme. This includes engaging with employers and using innovative approaches to inform and inspire students.

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

choices and support 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)



## COMMENDED SCHOOLS

The following schools are recognised for their commitment to the continuation of careers education and employer engagement, including the promotion of apprenticeships, during the exceptional circumstances resulting from COVID-19.

**Carterton Community College**  
**Didcot Girls School**  
**Europa School UK**  
**Frank Wise School**  
**Icknield Community College**  
**Larkmead School**  
**Maiden Erlegh Chiltern Edge**

# SCHOOL ENGAGEMENT EMPLOYER AWARD



## SPONSORED BY OXLEP SKILLS

OxLEP Skills is committed to inspiring young people about the career and training opportunities available in Oxfordshire and helping to prepare them for the world of work. Through our continued partnership with the Careers & Enterprise Company, hundreds of Oxfordshire's employers donate their time in order to inspire the next generation, such as providing virtual workplace encounters, industry insights or career-related projects.

Through sponsoring this new award, we want to recognise the importance of employer engagement in education and the opportunities it holds, not only for giving back through volunteering, but as a route to creating a talent pipeline for new apprentices.

This award will be given to an employer that has taken engagement with local schools and colleges to another level, exceeding all expectations, in order to inspire the next generation of talent.

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



## FINALISTS

### **Burford Recruitment Company**

Directors Jodie and Chris both work with Abingdon & Witney College as Enterprise Advisers. They provide ongoing careers advice and guidance for learners, including ad hoc support for individual students. They also support their local schools through taking part in mock interviews and business breakfasts and have introduced Careers Leaders to their weekly business networking group to help them to engage with other employers.

### **Morgan Sindall**

Morgan Sindall is committed to providing career inspiration and job opportunities and creating talent pipelines to boost skills in the construction industry. They are currently building at Orion Academy, a special educational needs and disabilities school in Oxford. Site Manager Charles supports the school as an Enterprise Adviser and the company has engaged students in activities such as work placements and a brick signing and careers information event.

### **Pearson**

Pearson Oxford engage with local schools in a variety of ways, including as Enterprise Advisers and 6th form mentors. They arranged a 'Takeover Day' for 10 Year 7 students from Didcot Girls' School to find out about being a publisher. They have adapted to lockdown, for example introducing virtual mock interviews at Wheatley Park School and running a virtual work experience week in January 2021, which was attended by 428 students from 18 schools.



# HIGHER APPRENTICE AWARD

## 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 maximise 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

### **Rosie Lay, UK Atomic Energy Authority**

Associate Project Manager Apprentice Rosie's achievements include starting up a new 'Being Inclusive Project' to help improve equality, diversity and inclusion and winning a bid to bring new funds into her department, an important and challenging part of business at UKAEA that many in more senior roles do not achieve. Rosie is a natural and kind leader who is dedicated, proactive and enthusiastic. She inspires future apprentices through outreach activities in local schools.

### **Nathan Jarvis, Oxford Biomedica**

Biotechnologist Apprentice Nathan is a strong leader and valued team player. He specialised in the manufacture of the Oxford/AstraZenca COVID-19 vaccine, quickly becoming a senior operator and leading multiple processes whilst training operators. His achievements have resulted in improved practice, increased safety and reduced environmental impact. He has given a speech at the House of Commons about the importance of apprenticeships.

### **Callam Woolgar, Adactus**

As well as being a skilled technician, Software Developer Apprentice Callam is dedicated, hardworking, helpful and polite. He builds strong relationships with clients and receives excellent feedback. He is able to constructively challenge and bring in new ideas to the company's software development through his training, research and experience. Callam consistently adds value, from rebuilding the company website to generating additional revenue across several clients.

# ADVANCED APPRENTICE AWARD



## SPONSORED BY NIELSENIQ

NielsenIQ provides consumer packaged goods manufacturers and retailers with accurate, actionable information and insights and a complete picture of the complex and changing marketplace that companies need to innovate and grow. Nielsen has operations in nearly 100 countries, covering more than 90% of the world's population.

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 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

### **Emilia Reyes Pabon, University of Oxford**

Laboratory Technician Apprentice Emilia played a crucial role in the production of the UK's first COVID-19 vaccine - the biggest challenge ever faced by her team at the Clinical BioManufacturing Facility. Emilia's reliability, commitment and dedication were key to the team's success. She is a passionate ambassador for apprenticeships, taking part in both local and national campaigns to inspire other young women to choose a career in science.

### **Jane Szuha, Luther Street Medical Centre**

Already a caring and resilient manager, Team Leader/Supervisor Apprentice Jane has gone the extra mile during the pandemic to ensure that her team feel valued, listened to and safe. She has provided direction and leadership at an extremely challenging time and put in place robust processes and procedures to ensure the safety and wellbeing of all staff, patients and visitors. Jane has used her apprenticeship to develop her skills and improve processes for her staff.

### **Heather Zeale, Oxfordshire County Council**

Outdoor Education Apprentice Heather is a compassionate and enthusiastic professional who has worked tirelessly to support vulnerable children and families throughout lockdown whilst continuing with her apprenticeship. She is selfless with her time, working closely with children outside of her usual working hours and dedicating herself to finding new and inventive ways of getting them involved and enriching their lives.



# INTERMEDIATE APPRENTICE AWARD

## 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.

has demonstrated the ability to take their learning and apply it in the workplace.

T: 0800 170 1177  
[www.abbott.co.uk](http://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



## FINALISTS

### **Mia Bowles, The Skincare Clinic**

Beauty Therapist  
Apprentice Mia is passionate about her job, workplace and industry. She is a confident, kind and caring therapist who will always go the extra mile to help clients and colleagues. Mia demonstrates maturity, ambition and a professional attitude to her work. Despite having to adapt to learning online during the pandemic, Mia has willingly and successfully taken on a full column of clients, which has been a huge financial help to the business during uncertain times.

### **Ella Lee, The Julie Bruce Dance/Drama Academy**

Ella is an Apprentice Dance Teacher, working with students of all ages and levels. When the school had to close due to lockdown, Ella remained positive and continued her training online. She is passionate about dance and her enthusiasm and dedication are inspiring for her students. She has been holding free extra classes online both to support students who are struggling with exam work and to help them prepare for a performance at the Dance World Cup in Spain later this year.

### **George James, Ignite Sport UK**

Apprentice Sports Coach  
George consistently shows great determination, enthusiasm, energy and a passion for sport, something that is absolutely crucial in his role. He always wears a smile and rises to any challenge put in front of him. George engages well with children and ensures that they have fun whilst learning key skills. During lockdown, George transitioned well to online learning and continued to be a very active, engaged and proactive learner.

# 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.

We have sponsored the Special Recognition Award for the last two years, after our apprentice Libby was Highly Commended in this category in 2019. We know 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

### **Susan Halliwell, Oxford Health NHS Foundation Trust**

Susan is a Health Care Assistant Apprentice working on the Specialist Stroke Rehabilitation Ward. She works in a person-centred way and always with a smile, supporting nurses and therapists with patients' rehabilitation needs. During the pandemic, Susan has faced some challenging situations due to her shielding status. Her enthusiasm and ambition to develop her skills and knowledge have shone throughout this difficult time.

### **George James, Ignite Sport UK**

Apprentice Sports Coach George has a medical diagnosis of Tourette's syndrome. His self-awareness, maturity and willingness to share his feelings enabled him to work with his employer to create a thriving learning environment. Through hard work, his confidence grew, and he developed excellent coping strategies, learning how to project his voice and relay instructions clearly. George is determined not to let his condition hold him back and is a fantastic role model.

### **Ellie Knight, University of Oxford**

At just 17, Apprentice Business Administrator Ellie had to start her role in the Finance Division working remotely at a time when lockdown placed huge additional demands on her team. They relied heavily on Ellie's initiative, tenacity, outstanding efficiency and determination to manage complex and difficult situations and tasks and couldn't have got through the pandemic without her. Ellie does everything with a smile, even pre and post recent emergency surgery.



# APPRENTICESHIP EMPLOYER AWARD

(250+ EMPLOYEES)



## SPONSORED BY CLARKSON EVANS

Clarkson Evans is the UK's leading specialist in wiring new homes, completing the installations in 24,000 houses nationwide each year. We employ around 250 Electrical Apprentices and train them at our own purpose-built centres, offering long-term careers 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 once again recognising the commitment of the most supportive large apprenticeship employers and celebrating the great work that goes into making such a difference to career prospects for so many people.

T: 01452 530336  
E: [jobs@clarkson-evans.co.uk](mailto:jobs@clarkson-evans.co.uk)  
[www.clarkson-evans.co.uk](http://www.clarkson-evans.co.uk)



## FINALISTS

### Oxford Biomedica

Oxford Biomedica's (OXB) mission is to deliver life-changing gene therapies to patients. In 2020, OXB added 8 new apprentices to the 10 already on programme. Roles range from Science Manufacturing Technician (Level 3) to Regulatory Affairs Specialist for Advanced Therapies (Level 7). Due to the level of support and focus on teamwork at OXB, COVID-19 has not disrupted the careers, progress or personal development of their apprentices.

### UK Atomic Energy Authority

UKAEA is the UK's national nuclear fusion laboratory. They currently employ 96 new start apprentices and 22 upskilling apprentices and plan to recruit another 30 this year. UKAEA has invested in a long-term equality, diversity and inclusion strategy, which has resulted in an increase in female and BAME applicants. Apprentices receive exceptional support, additional training and enrichment opportunities, which helps to encourage retention.

### University of Oxford

The University of Oxford brings together the brightest minds from around the world. They currently employ 150+ apprentices on programmes ranging from Level 2 to 7. Apprentices are fully supported from start to finish, and over 80% stay within the department into which they were recruited. The University aspires to build a truly diverse community, which values and respects every individual's unique contribution. The University pays all apprentices the Oxford Living Wage.

# APPRENTICESHIP EMPLOYER AWARD

(<250 EMPLOYEES)



## SPONSORED BY THE BURNSIDE PARTNERSHIP

The Burnside Partnership is made up of a team of experts who specialise in private client, tax & trusts and contentious wills and estates advice. In response to our clients' needs, we also offer a bespoke property service. Many of our advisors are recognised experts in their field and they and our firm have won a number of awards.

We have been committed to apprenticeships since we were founded in 2015. Our first apprentice won Oxfordshire Apprentice of the Year and is now working with us as a trainee legal executive. In 2019 we were delighted to be named as Oxfordshire Small Apprenticeship Employer of the Year. This year we recruited two paralegal apprentices.

Our Oxfordshire offices are based in

recently modernised historic building in an area of outstanding natural beauty on the Blenheim Palace Estate.

T: 01865 900572

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

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



## FINALISTS

### Adactus

Adactus is a software development company employing 19 people. Apprenticeships are a crucial part of the business's development and growth. Their apprentices add value in various ways, from building a new company website to bringing in new revenue. Their apprentices are always employed on permanent contracts, and all have stayed with the business on completion. Adactus supports 2 of their local schools with careers initiatives, including work experience.

### Electrogenic Ltd

Electrogenic convert internal combustion engine vehicles to all-electric. They employ 12 people, including 2 apprentices. They are a specialist business and expect their apprentices to grow and stay with the company. Each vehicle is assigned to a team of 2 – a senior mechanic and an apprentice, with the aim that the apprentice will lead their own team within 3 years. Electrogenic supports the Heritage Skills Academy to develop an electrification and conversion course to benefit other employers and their apprentices.

### Ikkaido

Ikkaido is a charity that engages people who are disabled or disadvantaged through martial arts activity. They employ 10 people, including 4 apprentices. Ikkaido has created an inclusive, accessible work and learning environment that provides opportunities for people who may not otherwise be able to work or complete an apprenticeship due to learning or physical disabilities or previous unemployment.



# SHINING STAR AWARD

## SPONSORED BY INTEGRATION TECHNOLOGY LTD

Integration Technology Ltd is a pioneering designer and developer of UV curing solutions for industrial inkjet 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

E: [mail@uvintegration.com](mailto:mail@uvintegration.com)

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



## FINALISTS

### **Olivia Cooper, Oxfordshire County Council**

Olivia joined Oxfordshire County Council in 2019 as a Business Administration Apprentice in Children's Social Care (CSC). She is proactive, hard-working, always happy to accept a challenge and keen to learn new skills. During Spring 2020, Olivia supported the CSC lead with co-ordinating equipment for children from over 300 schools. Her work meant that some of the most vulnerable children in Oxfordshire were able to home school during lockdown.

### **Barry Preston, UK Atomic Energy Authority**

Barry joined UKAEA as an Electrical Apprentice in 2013. He worked hard to grow his knowledge and experience to become a technical expert, progressing from apprentice to senior engineer. He is now working towards a degree in engineering. Barry has also developed excellent people skills, becoming a mentor and enabling others to reach their full potential. He continues to share his passion for engineering with the next generation by giving talks and taking part in STEM careers activities.

### **Ryan Smith, Thames Valley Police**

Ryan started an Infrastructure Technician Apprenticeship with Thames Valley Police (TVP) in 2018. On completion, he was successful in securing an Application Support Analyst role. Ryan always goes above and beyond and has absorbed every opportunity that has come his way. He volunteers to support the department, such as being part of a focus group reviewing processes and organising an annual away day. Ryan is now undertaking a degree to further his knowledge.

# APPRENTICESHIP CHAMPION AWARD

## 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 degree and higher apprenticeship standards from level 5 to 7 and currently have around 450 apprentices enrolled.

We are particularly proud this year of our healthcare apprentices, a number of whom took a temporary break from their apprenticeship so that they could support their colleagues in the fight against COVID-19.

We are proud to sponsor the Awards for the fourth year running and that our award will this year recognise individuals

who have gone the extra mile at this challenging time to keep learners in their apprenticeships and to continue championing apprenticeships as a fantastic career choice.

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



## FINALISTS

### **Steve Beaumont, Heritage Skills Academy**

At the start of lockdown in March 2020, Training Director Steve quickly converted a practical and complex apprenticeship programme to online remote learning. He kept 100 apprentices across 10 cohorts engaged and motivated, achieving 100% attendance. Steve's resilience, tireless work, and enthusiasm has enabled Heritage Skills Academy to continue recruiting both employers and apprentices throughout the pandemic, and take on 5 new staff since March 2020.

### **Hannah Bladen, Ignite Sport UK**

General Manager Hannah is passionate about helping young people to get a good start in life. She looks beyond academic background, additional needs and behavioural challenges and sees potential. Her caring, patient 'support and challenge' approach helps young people to develop and flourish. She used creative ways to keep all her apprentices engaged and motivated during lockdown. One of Hannah's ambitions is to ensure Ignite Sport UK has a diverse workforce.

### **Becky Elsworth, Oxford Health NHS Foundation Trust**

Apprenticeship Manager Becky has worked tirelessly throughout the pandemic to promote and develop apprenticeships across her organisation and beyond, including introducing new programmes and keeping current apprentices on track, moving learning onto a virtual platform. Becky's enthusiasm, motivation and devotion to her work and her team are inspiring. Despite her very heavy work schedule, Becky always finds time to support the people around her.



# 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 last 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 developing my administration skills which will enable me to have a variety of job roles in the future and a satisfying and progressive career."

Bob Malloy, Print Studio Manager says: "It's a real privilege to be actively involved in the Oxfordshire Apprenticeship Awards again this year. Jordan Morris, Apprenticeship Ambassador of the Year in 2019, has been involved in 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

## OXFORD MEDIA FACTORY



Oxford Media Factory is extremely proud to be the media partner for the Oxfordshire Apprenticeship Awards. While we are a full-service video production agency based in Eynsham, Oxfordshire, close to our hearts is working with charities, community and youth projects, so being a media partner for these awards was a no-brainer.

## 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

Apprenticeships offer such a great opportunity to both young people and those looking to retrain in their careers.

Our award-winning work comes from being partners with our clients. This allows us to produce something that resonates with the audience, as well as sparking interest and imagination. As ever, we will go above and beyond to make sure that the team, audience, finalists and winners of the Oxfordshire Apprenticeship Awards get this experience for their special event.

We look forward to virtually seeing you all on the evening!

T: 01865 522678

E: [hello@oxfordmediafactory.co.uk](mailto:hello@oxfordmediafactory.co.uk)

[@oxmediafactory](https://www.instagram.com/oxmediafactory)

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



Awards for the fifth year running.

T: 01865 290000

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

# 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.

Find out more at [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 2021. 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 464430  
E: [earlycareers@ukaea.uk](mailto:earlycareers@ukaea.uk)  
[ccfe.ukaea.uk](http://ccfe.ukaea.uk)

## OXFORDSHIRE ADVANCED SKILLS

Oxfordshire Advanced Skills (OAS) offers high quality training for apprentice engineers and technicians at technology businesses in the Thames Valley.

We train work-ready apprentices with the competencies expected in the workplace and offer an employer-led, value for money training programme.

Located at UKAEA's Culham Science Centre near Abingdon, OAS is a partnership between the UK Atomic Energy Authority and the Science & Technology Facilities Council. The two organisations have a history of apprentice training in science and engineering stretching back more than 70 years.

Our new centre, opened in September 2019, is managed by our apprentice training partner MTC Apprenticeships. MTC's



Advanced Engineering Apprenticeship helps learners develop the skills needed for delivering the technologies of the future in the high value manufacturing sector, both in Oxfordshire and across the UK.

T: 02476 701557  
E: [OASPhase2@the-mtc.org](mailto:OASPhase2@the-mtc.org)  
[www.oas.ukaea.uk](http://www.oas.ukaea.uk)

# AWARDS SPONSORS & SUPPORTERS

## OXFORDSHIRE SKILLS FOR BUSINESS



The skills landscape can be confusing for small businesses. OxLEP's Skills for Business programme is here to help! Part-funded by the European Social Fund, the programme offers small and medium sized enterprises (SMEs) up to 12 hours of training and development consultancy, worth the equivalent of £1800, free of charge.

Support could range from advice on apprenticeships, recruitment, upskilling,

work placements and developing processes and plans.

Through this practical support, SMEs will receive a Skills Needs Assessment to identify skills gaps, and a bespoke training and development plan to highlight options and opportunities. They will also receive ongoing advice, recommendations and guidance through 1:1 consultancy sessions.

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 2021.

T: 01865 897189

E: [Skills4Business@oxfordshirelep.com](mailto:Skills4Business@oxfordshirelep.com)  
[www.oxfordshirelep.com/sfb](http://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 by 2020 we had enrolled over 600 apprentices. 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](http://www.oxfordshire.gov.uk)

