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Novotel Cambridge North
General Manager



WHY ARE APPRENTICESHIPS SO IMPORTANT FOR YOUNG PEOPLE?

Apprenticeships are important for young people as it gives them an alternative to university, a different path to transition from the education world to working life. This transition allows them to link both worlds over a defined period of time and well established framework. It gives them the opportunity to develop their skills, knowledge, build up much needed experience and ultimately boost their career prospects.

HOW DO APPRENTICESHIPS BENEFIT EMPLOYERS?

From an employer's point of view Apprenticeships are indeed very beneficial. Following the pandemic and Brexit, it is no secret that many sectors are struggling with recruitment and retention. Soft skills are often on the agenda but how do you teach resilience, respect, accountability, flexibility and pride for your workplace to name just a few? Having an apprentice for a defined period of time allows the employer to prepare clear training and development plans with a view of offering a long term job at the end of it or keep supporting the apprentice should they wish to keep going through the levels available.

WHAT IS YOUR EXPERIENCE WORKING WITH APPRENTICESHIPS?

I personally had some great experiences working with apprentices. It is always very rewarding to see someone gain confidence, become part of our work family, develop skills, and see them flourish. Knowing that we have played a role in a fulfilling career is definitely a perk of our job! I personally always love seeing them become work ready, understand the importance of some key work values, become responsible and most importantly surprise us with their learning and how they apply it to their everyday life. Seeing them grow as a person is certainly invaluable.

HOW DOES THE APPRENTICESHIP ROUTE DIFFER FROM THE MORE TRADITIONAL UNIVERSITY ROUTE?

The apprenticeship route differ from the more traditional university route. It gives a hands on experience with industry professionals whilst keeping touch with the education sector. I guess we could say they go straight in and can assess if they are made for their chosen career path.

WHO ARE APPRENTICESHIPS FOR?

Apprenticeships are for everybody! Whether you want to upskill or start a new career path, there is a wide range of apprenticeship routes available to all.

WHAT ARE SOME BENEFITS TO STUDENTS UNDERTAKING AN APPRENTICESHIP?

The benefits to students for undertaking an apprenticeship are huge! First and foremost, you gain valuable experience whilst studying! You have access to experts in their fields to teach and coach you along the way. You have the opportunity of unlocking your first long term job whilst learning it. You get paid to achieve a qualification and the sky is the limit as you can keep upskilling along the way.



MANUEL HART

Novotel Cambridge North
Level 2 Chef Production Apprentice

WHY DID YOU CHOOSE AN APPRENTICESHIP?

I chose to study an apprenticeship because I find the school environment quite challenging as I struggle to focus and to stay seated in the classroom. So, being in the kitchen helps me feel more comfortable to learn whilst doing in the job.

WHAT DO YOU ENJOY ABOUT YOUR APPRENTICESHIP?

This apprenticeship has opened my eyes to how life is like in the real work environment. I started on one of the busiest weeks, so it was a lot to take in but it showed me that it isn't a walk in the park. I have seen that it takes a lot of mental and physical preparation to keep up with real life work. However this apprenticeship is helping me prepare for working life.

ARE YOU ENJOYING YOUR APPRENTICESHIP?

Within my apprenticeship, i've had some hard days and some eaay days but the team has been so welcoming. They help me feel comfortable and at ease, which has made working at the hotel more enjoyable.

HOW DID YOU FIND YOUR APPRENTICESHIP?

I found this apprenticeship at a careers fair at my college. I had looked around the hotel and realised it was the perfect place for me.

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