



What is a Foundation Apprenticeship?

Foundation apprenticeships give both young people and employers a head start.

These industry-recognised qualifications give work-based learning opportunities for secondary school pupils while helping businesses develop their talent pipelines.

Foundation Apprenticeships are designed alongside industry, providing the skills that employers need. They give a qualification at the same level as a Higher, recognised by all Scottish colleges and universities

Young people spend time gaining work experience

in a business as part of their studies in S5 and S6, getting industry knowledge and experience while they're still at school.

In turn, Foundation Apprenticeships let employers spot and inspire talented, motivated pupils who could become their future employees and help reduce recruitment costs.

Student choices

There are 12 Foundation Apprenticeship subjects to choose from at SCQF Level 6 and 3 Foundation Apprenticeship subjects at SCQF Level 4/5.

 Accountancy	 Business Skills	 Civil Engineering	 Creative and Digital Media
 Engineering	 Financial Services	 Food and Drink Technologies	 Hardware and System Support
 Scientific Technologies	 Social Services Children and Young People	 Social Services and Healthcare	 Software Development

A key difference for students from other subject choices is that they spend time with a local learning provider, such as a college, as well as gaining valuable industry experience with some of Scotland's top employers.

All apprenticeships have been designed in partnership with employers to make sure students get the industry knowledge and experience that strengthen their CV.

Whatever they want to do after school – progressing into a job, including a Modern or Graduate Apprenticeship, or going to college or university – a Foundation Apprenticeship can widen their options.

Employer options

For the employer, they offer school pupils real experience of the world of work. With the support of a learning provider, the apprentice is trained towards their qualification and can help tackle real projects for their business.

They get early access to future talent who could become a valuable and skilled part of their team. By giving S5 and S6 pupils practical industry skills and experience, they can shape their career and the future of their company.

You can give yourself or your business a head start now. Find out more about Foundation Apprenticeships here.



DYW (Developing the Young Workforce) works to connect employers with education. It bridges the gap to provide young people with more opportunities to develop their employability skills and help them find fulfilling careers.

To find out more, get in touch at info@dyw.org.uk