

Science Industry Partnership

2020 Survey of Apprenticeships in the Science Sector

Thank you for participating in the 2020 Survey of Apprenticeships in the Science Sector.

Your response will contribute significantly to our understanding of the current position of apprenticeships in the sector, including the impact of the Apprenticeship Levy and what employers would like to see to improve their apprenticeship uptake. The data obtained within this survey is not available elsewhere, so it is vital we collect as many responses as possible to get an accurate overview of apprenticeship uptake across the science industries

In 2018, the Science Industry Partnership (SIP) published its first ever [Apprenticeship Survey report](#), the results of which have informed the SIP's activities, projects and messages to Government on skills and education policy. The purpose of this survey is to obtain up-to-date information about apprenticeships and to observe any changes in how they are being used within the Science Sector.

There is also a question to allow you to submit your views on the impact of COVID-19 on apprenticeships in your organisation.

To complete the survey, you will need the following information to hand:

- Basic details about your organisation (in the UK only) - e.g. size and sector
- The number, age and gender of apprentices currently training with your organisation in the UK
- Details of the apprenticeships that are being undertaken, including subject area and level
- Your organisation's usage of the Apprenticeship Levy (if applicable)

Please note:

- Some questions may require collaboration with colleagues from other departments or sites
- Only one response per organisation is required
- For questions that require "current" data, please note this refers to 1st April 2020
- This survey should take approximately 15 minutes to complete.

The survey results will be published later this year however the report will only contain aggregated information and not individual responses from specific companies. Any information/data shared within this survey will not be made available elsewhere. View our data protection policy [here](#).

If you have any queries about the survey, please contact Carl Bramwell, Research and Policy Officer at Cogent Skills – carl.bramwell@cogentskills.com

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What is the name of your organisation?

* What is the total number of employees your organisation has across all locations in the UK?

- | | |
|---------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| <input type="radio"/> 0 - 49 | <input type="radio"/> 500 - 999 |
| <input type="radio"/> 50 - 99 | <input type="radio"/> 1000 - 4999 |
| <input type="radio"/> 100 - 249 | <input type="radio"/> 5000 - 9999 |
| <input type="radio"/> 250 - 499 | <input type="radio"/> 10,000+ |

* Which of the following options best describes the industry sector of your organisation?

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="radio"/> Adhesives and Sealants | <input type="radio"/> Industrial Biotechnology |
| <input type="radio"/> Anaerobic Digestion and Biogas | <input type="radio"/> Medical Biotechnology |
| <input type="radio"/> Chemicals | <input type="radio"/> Medical Technology |
| <input type="radio"/> Coatings | <input type="radio"/> Personal Care and Consumer Products |
| <input type="radio"/> Downstream Petroleum | <input type="radio"/> Pharmaceuticals |
| <input type="radio"/> Food / Beverages | <input type="radio"/> Polymers / Plastics |

* Which business functions does your organisation have in the UK?

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Research and Development | <input type="checkbox"/> Distribution |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Manufacturing Own Products | <input type="checkbox"/> Analytical / Testing Services |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Contract / Toll Manufacturing | <input type="checkbox"/> Business Functions/Head Office |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sales and Marketing | <input type="checkbox"/> Legal / Regulatory |

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* Does your organisation currently pay the Apprenticeship Levy?

Yes

No

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* What is your current annual Apprenticeship Levy in GBP?

* How much of your annual levy, in GBP, are you currently recovering for apprenticeship training?

* Is your organisation currently training any apprentices?

Yes

No

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* Does your organisation have an annual intake of apprentices, or recruit to fill specific needs as required?

Annual intake

As required

* Please enter the total number of individuals currently on apprenticeship-based training within your organisation according to each of the following classifications:

Newly recruited
apprentices

Retraining/upskilling
existing employees

* Of your total current apprentices, including employees who are retraining/upskilling, how many are funded through the Apprenticeship Levy?

* Please enter the number of individuals who started on apprenticeship training within your organisation between 1st April 2019 and 31st March 2020, according to each of the following classifications:

Newly recruited apprentices

Retraining/upskilling existing employees

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Please enter the number of individuals currently enrolled on Apprenticeship-based training within your organisation according to the following sector subject categories and levels:

Laboratory - Science and Technical

(e.g. Laboratory Technicians, Laboratory Scientists)

Level 2

Level 3

Level 4

Level 5

Level 6

Level 7

Manufacturing

(e.g. Manufacturing Technicians, Process Operatives)

Level 2

Level 3

Level 4

Level 5

Level 6

Level 7

Engineering

(e.g. Maintenance Engineers, Chemical Engineers, Electrical Engineers, Mechanical Engineers)

Level 2

Level 3

Level 4

Level 5

Level 6

Level 7

Supply Chain

(e.g. Warehouse Operatives, LGV Drivers, Supply Chain Operators/Practitioners)

Level 2

Level 3

Level 4

Level 5

Level 6

Level 7

Business Functions

(including IT/Digital, Sales & Marketing, Finance, Legal, HR, Procurement)

Level 2

Level 3

Level 4

Level 5

Level 6

Level 7

Leadership and Management

(e.g. Team Leaders, Supervisors, Operations Managers)

Level 2

Level 3

Level 4

Level 5

Level 6

Level 7

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* Please enter the number of your total current apprentices, including upskilling/retraining current employees, who identify as:

Male

Female

Other

* Please enter the number of your total current apprentices, including upskilling/retraining current employees, within each of the following age categories:

16 - 18

19 - 24

25 - 49

50+

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* Which of the following options best describes why your organisation has recently chosen not to train apprentices? (Select up to 3 options)

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Lack of available time to offer suitable training | <input type="checkbox"/> Lack of available information and support from training providers / government |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Lack of available staff / resources to offer suitable training | <input type="checkbox"/> Lack of suitable candidates |
| <input type="checkbox"/> No applicable apprenticeship standard/framework for business needs | <input type="checkbox"/> 20% off-the-job training not conducive to business needs |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Training costs too expensive / don't offer value for money | <input type="checkbox"/> Lack of sufficient funding |
| <input type="checkbox"/> General freeze on recruitment | |

Other (please specify)

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* Does your organisation plan to start any new apprenticeship training within the next 12 months?

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* Please enter the number of apprentices that your organisation intends to start training in the next 12 months, according to each of the following classifications:

Recruited apprentices

Retraining/upskilling existing employees

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* Which of the following options would encourage your organisation to increase the number of apprenticeship starts in the future? (select up to 3 options)

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> To claim back Apprenticeship Levy payments, if applicable | <input type="checkbox"/> General business growth / increased demand for staff |
| <input type="checkbox"/> A wider range of Apprenticeship Standards more closely aligned with core business functions | <input type="checkbox"/> Difficulty in recruiting experienced staff |
| <input type="checkbox"/> To upskill the existing workforce | <input type="checkbox"/> Lower training costs / additional assistance towards costs |
| <input type="checkbox"/> An increased level of advice and support from training providers / government | <input type="checkbox"/> Increase the amount of time available to spend Apprenticeship Levy fund |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Options to recruit apprentices more easily | <input type="checkbox"/> Local consortium of apprenticeships with other organisations |

Other (please specify)

* Are there any business areas where you would like to see a new Apprenticeship Standard developed?

- No
- Yes (please state below)

Has the current COVID-19 pandemic affected your plans to recruit/maintain apprentices this year? (i.e. start numbers and chosen apprenticeship standards)

- No
- Yes (please explain below)

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If you would like to receive a copy of the final report please enter your email address here:

If you would be willing for us to call you with regards to this survey in order to clarify any information, please enter a contact name and telephone number:

Contact name

Telephone number

Thank you for taking the time to participate in this survey. Your responses are valuable in improving apprenticeship and skills related policy and practice for the sector.