

Technical Education Programme 'Update on Apprenticeships' webinar (08/10/24) – Q&A

Many thanks to colleagues from Amazing Apprenticeships and IfATE for their input to the answers below.

Disclaimer: Please note that the information in this document reflects the policy situation at the time of the webinar recorded in October 2024 and is subject to change over time.

Q: What are the Occupational Maps and where can I find more information on them?

A: All Apprenticeships, T Levels and Higher Technical Qualifications (HTQs) are based on occupations recognised by employers. The Occupational Maps bring these together to show progression routes for technical education. There are 15 maps, one for each route. The Occupational Maps were created by IfATE (Institute for Apprenticeships and Technical Education) and can be found on their website:

<https://www.instituteforapprenticeships.org/occupational-maps>

There are also some really helpful videos aimed at career professionals, found here. [Career professionals: How you can use the occupational maps \(instituteforapprenticeships.org\)](https://www.instituteforapprenticeships.org/career-professionals-how-you-can-use-the-occupational-maps)

Q: Will the new teacher apprenticeship be a realistic option for 6th form students, or will schools only train and upskill current staff such as Teaching Assistants?

A: Whilst some schools will choose to upskill their current workforce, there is no reason why they cannot train students who have a relevant Level 3 qualification, so long as they meet the minimum [entry requirements](#). The idea behind teacher apprenticeships is to open up the profession to a more diverse range of applicants. Applications are currently open for the first trainees to start a teacher apprenticeship programme in 2025.

We would encourage schools, when looking at their workforce planning, to consider training their own students. When a new apprenticeship standard is developed, it can take a while for it to be fully adopted; time to budget and plan is needed to create vacancies.

Further information on the teacher apprenticeship can be found [here](#)

Q: Are apprenticeships available for adult learners or career changers?

A: Yes, apprenticeships are open to learners from age 16+, including adults who wish to upskill or retrain. In some cases, prior attainment or prior qualifications will be required, as each IfATE approved apprenticeship will set out the entry requirements that employers need.

Q: What is the latest update on whether Level 3 apprenticeships will be allocated UCAS points?

A: Earlier this year, UCAS set up a consultation on how tariff points should be allocated to apprenticeships and IfATE has been working closely with UCAS on this. The results of the consultation are expected in the near future, with the final decision to be announced by UCAS on how UCAS points may be allocated.

Q: Which qualifications are within IfATE's remit?

A: Technical qualifications including T Levels, Higher Technical Qualifications and apprenticeships are in IfATE's remit. Each of these are based on the occupational standards found on the [IfATE website](#). It will be the role of Skills England to determine which other qualifications will be included in their remit from April 25 onwards, and this is part of the current discussion being held as part of the development of the new [Growth and Skills Levy](#).

Q: Do learners need to have GCSE Maths and English to access level 2 apprenticeships? What about those with SEND?

A: [New guidelines](#) around the requirements for Maths and English took effect from 1st August 2024. Previously, it was essential for a learner to have an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP), or a diagnosis of a specific learning need in order to be considered for adaptations to be made to the level of functional skills required to complete an apprenticeship. However, following a pilot last year, it is now best practice to allow training providers to make their own assessment based on the needs of an individual learner, as to what flexibilities can be given. This welcome change means that apprenticeships are even more accessible to a wide range of young people and offer a more individualised approach.

The full rules on English and Maths is found here (page 20 onwards) [Apprenticeship funding rules 2024 to 2025 \(publishing.service.gov.uk\)](#)