

# Retail

## What is an Apprenticeship?

An Apprenticeship is a mix of real work and learning. Apprentices earn a wage and gain experience whilst working towards a number of qualifications. An Apprenticeship follows a Level 2 programme and can lead onto an Advanced Apprenticeship which is a Level 3 programme.

### Overview

Retail is a dynamic and evolving career choice; three million people are employed across the UK with this sector creating more jobs than any other sector over the last five years.

The number of people employed in the UK retail workforce is forecast to increase by 6% over a ten year period (between 2007 and 2017).

Retail is a developing industry that is both interesting and accommodating, irrespective of age or skill levels.

Retail jobs can be financially rewarding, offering training and skills development opportunities. The average wage of a retail sales assistant is £11-15k with that of a retail sales supervisor being in the region of £15-20k.

### Example Job Roles as an Apprentice

Retail Assistant within;

- Clothing, Footwear and Electrical Stores
- Supermarkets
- Chemists
- Mail Order
- Salon

### Apprenticeship Framework

There are a number of elements to each Apprenticeship and this is called the framework. Each Apprenticeship framework has three main strands:

- Competence based element
- Technical element
- Skills element

The three strands are sometimes accompanied by additional qualifications to give the most relevant skills and knowledge required for the job, these are broken down as follows:

### Competence Element

Apprenticeship - NVQ level 2 Retail Operations

Advanced - NVQ level 3 Retail Operations

### Technical Element

Apprenticeship - Certificate in Retail Operations Level 2

Advanced - Certificate in Retail Operations Level 3

### Skills Element

Apprenticeship - Communication Level 1 + Application of Number Level 1

Advanced - Key or Functional Skills in Communication Level 2 + Application of Number Level 2

### Other Additional Study

Employment Rights and Responsibilities

### Apprenticeships Available

- Apprenticeship Level 2 - on completion this is equivalent to 5 A\* - C grade GCSE's
- Advanced Apprenticeship Level 3 - on completion this is equivalent to 2 A-levels

### **Progression Routes**

- Advanced Apprenticeship

### **Already Employed?**

Are you currently employed but not working towards qualifications? Speak to your employer about converting to an Apprenticeship and ask them to contact us on:

Email: [apprenticeships@newcollege.ac.uk](mailto:apprenticeships@newcollege.ac.uk)

Website: [www.newcollege.ac.uk](http://www.newcollege.ac.uk) and [www.fastforwardonline.net](http://www.fastforwardonline.net)

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