



Want a job? Lack of candidates coming forwards leaves Apprenticeship vacancies open

Somerset is in urgent need of plumbers, engineers and builders, among other professions, and there are Apprenticeship vacancies at Yeovil College that are not seeing enough applicants, and sometimes none at all.

An Apprenticeship through Yeovil College is a great way to merge education, on the job training, and employment and the college's reputation for employer engagement and the relationship with the local business community mean.

There are several issues provoking the shortage of apprentice applicants locally, including negative perceptions of the career path, and a lack of awareness and understanding of the type and number of roles that are currently available. Long gone are the days when it was "only for less academically able students," which is now a dated stereotype. In the time it takes some learners to study A levels, an apprentice can achieve a same-level qualification, having earned a decent salary for two years, and finish with two years' on the job experience.

It's a great way for young people to build their confidence and create a network of people that could help them in future career.

Mark Bolton, Director of Employer Engagement at Yeovil College, said, "Businesses are starting to think about how they can build their staff from the bottom up and Apprenticeships offer a very real and sensible solution to this problem. They enable an employer to recruit a young person into a role who has the right attitude, who wants to learn. We are working with businesses with Apprenticeship vacancies that are crying out to be filled."

So, if you or a young person you know is sitting at home wondering what to do with their lives, talk to the Yeovil College Apprenticeship team and have a serious think about how an Apprenticeship could work for you.

For more information on Apprenticeship vacancies with Yeovil College, visit <http://www.yeovil.ac.uk/Apprenticeships/Apprenticeships.html>.