



Yeovil College Celebrate massive success at The Grow Somerset Talent Awards

Yeovil College have been recognised not once, but four times at The Grow Somerset Talent Award, which took place at the Holiday Inn Deane Gate Ave, Taunton on Friday 10 March. A total of 9 Yeovil College businesses and employers were shortlisted and finalists in this event; achieving the most finalists in the county.

The Grow Somerset Talent Group was formed 7 years ago when the initial aim was to gain 100 apprenticeship placements in just 100 days. The Grow Somerset Talent awards take place once every two years during National Apprenticeship Week. We are delighted to have had nine of our students and employer partners shortlisted, achieving the top award in three categories, in front of over 200 business leaders from Somerset.

Congratulations to our winners:

Intermediate Apprentice of the Year: Stacey Helyar

Medium Employer of the Year: Jones Building Group, and

Large Employer of the Year: Yarlinton Housing Group for their achievements.

Nicola Hardwill, Nursing Manager at Hendford Medical Centre, said, "Stacey is an exceptional individual who works very hard in our team. She is professional, reliable, trustworthy and committed to the company. Stacey is a shining example of someone who lacked confidence but has grown into a caring and valuable team member helped by her studies. Staff request to work with her, patients love her and managers can rely on her. As a Health coach she is an ambassador to the company. The leg ulcer team was shortlisted for the National Nursing team of the Year."

Yarlinton Housing and Jones Building Group have consistently shown an outstanding commitment to the apprenticeship scheme for many years. They continuously strive to improve their apprentices experience and explore how they can add value to the apprenticeships. They believe that the apprentices are a valuable asset to their teams and do their best to retain their apprentices and offer them full time employment and further training once their apprenticeship has completed.

A Yeovil College student, Nathan Loveridge, spoke at the event, outlining his journey from school to Marketing Apprentice at Yeovil College. As a member of staff at the College, he plays an important role in creating and editing engaging content, organising events and supporting the Marketing and Communications team with key tasks.

Nathan Loveridge, Marketing Apprentice at Yeovil College, said, "Thanks to my Apprenticeship with Yeovil College I have grown enormously in confidence and I am excited about the future."

Yeovil College have been working with The Grow Somerset Talent Group since it formed 7 years ago, and we are firm believers in the great work they do for the reputation of the apprenticeship industry as a whole.

The Grow Somerset Talent Group is made up of four Colleges within Somerset; Yeovil College, Strode College, Bridgwater & Taunton College, Richard Huish College and two Training Providers SS&L and Acacia Training & Development, and the event is organised by Yeovil College on behalf of the partnership.

Mark Bolton, Director of Employer Engagement, said, "Congratulations to all our finalists for their hard work and determination. As a College we are exceptionally proud of our strong strategic partnerships with local and national employers, which demonstrate commitment to invest in the training and development of the future workforce."

"Yeovil College has an impressive retention rate of 93%, which means that almost all of our apprentices continue with their employers after their formal apprenticeship has ended."

"We have also launched our brand new Higher-level and Degree Apprenticeships, meaning that our new students will be able to work with our partner employers whilst undertaking a degree via day release at Yeovil College. We believe this is a fantastic alternative to the traditional route of university."

Yeovil College offers one of the widest ranges of Apprenticeship frameworks in Somerset and Southern England. The College has an excellent track record of working with some of the areas largest and best known employers finding the right apprentices and helping individuals make the right contacts. Both apprentices and employers are supported by a professional team.

Yeovil College trains over 1,100 apprentices every year directly from Yeovil and at over 850 workplaces across the UK covering:

- Construction
- Engineering
- Hospitality
- Business
- Management
- IT
- Health Care and Early Years
- Hair and Beauty
- Sport
- Motor Vehicle
- Digital Media

For more information about Yeovil College Apprenticeships, visit: www.yeovil.ac.uk.

Photograph shows



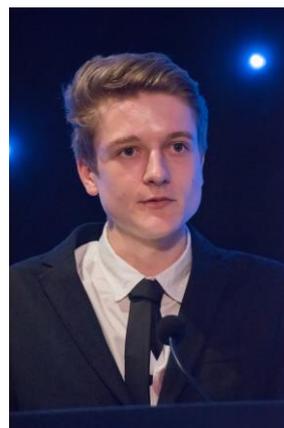
Intermediate Apprentice of the Year:
Stacey Helyar



Medium Employer of the Year:
Jones Building Group



Large Employer of the Year:
Yarlington Housing Group



Marketing Apprentice at Yeovil College:
Nathan Loveridge



Work Based Learning Manager at Yeovil College:
Mandy Bridge