

The full 101 Amazing Apprenticeship Activities for Schools resource can be accessed for free on our website: [www.amazingapprenticeships.com/resources/101-amazing-apprenticeship-activities](http://www.amazingapprenticeships.com/resources/101-amazing-apprenticeship-activities)

## ACTIVITY OVERVIEW

There is a national minimum wage for apprentices, but many employers pay significantly more than this. This activity helps students to research the National Minimum Wage and investigate the salaries that employers pay to their apprentices.

## RESEARCH THE NATIONAL MINIMUM WAGE

Use the information available on <https://www.gov.uk/national-minimum-wage-rates> to start a class discussion. Ask your students:

- If they know why we have a national minimum wage?
- If they know what the current rates are?
- If they understand the difference between the national minimum wage and the national living wage?

## APPRENTICESHIP SALARIES

Use the quick-fire questions below to expand your students' knowledge of apprenticeship salaries.

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| <p>1. What do you think the National Minimum Wage for apprentices is?</p> <p>A. £3.50 per hour<br/>B. £7.50 per hour<br/>C. £5.60 per hour</p> | <p>3. What do you think an apprentice chef would earn annually?</p> <p>A. £35,000 - £40,000<br/>B. £6,000 - £10,000<br/>C. £11,000 - £23,000</p> |
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The answer is A. £3.50 per hour for apprentices aged under 19 or over 19 and in the first year of their apprenticeship. This rate is lower than the standard National Minimum Wage, however it is important to remember that this salary is the minimum that must be paid and many employers will pay significantly more than this.

2. On average, how much do apprentices earn per hour?
- A. £5.20  
B. £6.30  
C. £6.99

The answer is C. The 2016 Apprenticeship Pay Survey for England, 2016\* showed that among Level 2 and Level 3 apprentices in England the mean average basic pay was £6.99.

\*To see the full survey please visit <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/apprenticeship-pay-survey-2016>

The answer is C. Apprentice chefs usually earn between £11,000 - £23,000, though specialist chefs or those working in high profile restaurants can be paid more than this. Did you know that Jamie Oliver was an apprentice Chef?

4. How much do you think an apprentice working for the Cabinet Office might earn? The Cabinet Office is a department of the Government responsible for supporting the Prime Minister and Cabinet of the United Kingdom.
- A. £19,500 - £27,000  
B. £10,000 - £15,000  
C. £13,500 - £20,000

The answer is A. The salary range is £19,500 - £27,000 (£22,000 minimum in London). The Civil Service apprenticeship programme covers a wide range of government departments. To find out more visit <http://amazingapprenticeships.com/resources/civil-service-fast-track-apprenticeship-scheme-presentation/>