

Does the size of the employer matter?

From high-profile international blue-chip companies to the businesses on your local high street, many organisations offer exciting apprenticeship opportunities. Each employer will offer a different apprenticeship experience, so seeing the value in working for both a small and large business is essential. We asked some apprentices to share their thoughts with us...

Benefits of working for a small business

"The best thing about being in a smaller business is that you get a really personal experience. You will spend a lot of time with your colleagues, and will get to know the business owner really quickly too"

"In a smaller team, everybody knows everybody, so this is a nice way to get used to the world of work in a comfortable environment"

"A small team doesn't mean you won't be able to socialise. There are lots of opportunities including the Young Apprentice Ambassador Network which is a great way to meet lots of like-minded apprentices"

"In a small business you can contact your line manager really quickly. If I ever need help with something, they are there straight away and will always make sure that I'm happy in my role"

"I love that in my apprenticeship, we get involved in lots of different tasks. I've been able to work on marketing, finance, business development and research and I've only been there 6 weeks!"

"When you do a good job it gets noticed (and rewarded) pretty quickly!"

"I work in a small company and I've already had three pay rises in my first year"

Benefits of working for a large business

"My company were really good at helping me to relocate. When I applied for the position I asked them about support available and they were able to put me in touch with their apprentice support team"

"I found the application process easier because I work for a big employer and they had a really clear recruitment process on their website"

"When I started my apprenticeship, there were 20 of us all starting at the same time which meant that I instantly had 19 new friends. We play in sports teams and have even tried to organise a group holiday"

"The salary really attracted me to this position. I found that sometimes the wages are more competitive in a large organisation as I guess they're hoping to attract the best talent possible"

"I think I'm going to get really good career progression. I can apply to work at different sites and might even be able to move abroad one day"

"I work for a recognised brand, which I think will look great on my CV in the future"

"As part of my apprenticeship I will be able to rotate every 6 months through different departments"