

NEET prevention through ASK

Extra help for Local Authorities due to Covid-19

What is ASK?

The Apprenticeship Support & Knowledge for Schools and Colleges programme (ASK) has been working with schools, colleges and other educational establishments for the past five years. Through ASK, every establishment in England has been entitled to access a bespoke programme of apprenticeship awareness activities for their students, staff and parents, working with one of the appointed ASK Delivery Partners. The programme contains two elements: face to face delivery and a wide range of resources which are available through the Amazing Apprenticeships website.

The programme is fully funded by the Education & Skills Funding Agency (ESFA), part of the Department for Education.

Changes due to Covid-19

Since April, the ASK programme has been re-modelled to a digital offer so that schools and their students can continue to be supported. In time, and when it is safe to do so, the programme will revert to a face to face offer however elements of the digital delivery may still continue.

The ASK programme has now been enhanced so that more work can be undertaken to support those staff within Local Authorities (LAs) who are involved in trying to support young people and prevent them from moving into the Not in Education Employment or Training group (NEET).

What support is available to LAs?

The ASK programme will now support Local Authorities in a number of ways, both by supporting staff to bring their knowledge and awareness of apprenticeships, traineeships and T Levels up to date and also in supporting activities to engage young people who may find themselves without a planned destination and looking for support and information.

What could support for LAs include?

The support will include:

- Supporting activities for young people organised through the LA to engage and support young people who are at risk of / have become NEET e.g. awareness presentations, employability skills workshops, registration and application workshops etc.
- Supporting activities for teachers, careers advisers and parents organised through the LA to engage them to understand what is available so that they can pass it on.
- Staff training workshops and presentations for teams within the LAs who are supporting young people, to equip them with knowledge about apprenticeships, traineeships and T Levels.

What happens next?

Each Local Authority who wishes to engage with the ASK programme will need to have a planning meeting. This is the initial meeting where you will discuss with your ASK Delivery Partner the type of support that may be appropriate. It is designed to ensure that you are informed of the full range of support services available through ASK, and then work together to start to plan out the most appropriate activities.

How to get started

Step 1: Visit the website and dedicated page: www.amazingapprenticeships.com/local-authorities

Step 2: Complete the 'Request Support' form to register your interest

Step 3: Your regional ASK Delivery Partner will arrange for a representative to set up a planning meeting.