

## **Apprenticeships –**

An Apprenticeship is a real job with training so you can earn while you learn and pick up recognised qualifications as you go. They take between one and four years to complete and cover a wide range of industries, from things like construction to hairdressing, nursing to animal care.

Key Benefits: Earn a salary, get paid holidays, receive training, gain qualifications and learn job-specific skills.

Contact Paul Valentine; 01606288909 [paul.valentine@cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk](mailto:paul.valentine@cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk)

## **Traineeships –**

Traineeships are ideal for kick starting your career and available for young people 16 to 23 years old. They combine college training and work experience and can run up to six months. They'll help you:

- Experience the world of work in an industry you choose;
- Gain employability skills alongside your placement;
- Develop your job search skills and help improve your CV;
- Progress onto an apprenticeship, further study or into employment.
- You'll gain skills and work experience
- Improve your English and Maths and assist you to achieve GCSEs if you haven't got these already
- Provided you with work preparation training to help you move into the world of work.

You will spend up to six months working in a high-quality work placement in an industry which matches your interests and ambitions. This will prepare you for the next steps in your career.

You don't need to find the work placement, but if you have one in mind we can help you get started. If not we have a bank of employers who may consider taking you on as a trainee.

Contact us on: 0800 28 18 42

<http://www.apprenticeships.org.uk/employers/traineeships.aspx>

## **Youth Contract –**

Is for young people, 16-17 year olds, who are Not in Employment, Education or Training (NEET) who generally have no A\*-C GCSEs, however this has been relaxed for young people in care or custody - you can have as many GCSEs at any grade as long as you are still NEET.

To sign up there is a referral form which can be completed by you and/or someone can meet with you and your carer to assess whether a service is right for you. 18 year olds can be supported as long as they are enrolled before your 18th birthday.

The service is a mentoring service and mentors have 6 months from enrolling a young person to get you into one of 3 outcomes -

- A full-time job with training (equivalent of day release)
- Full time education or training
- An Apprenticeship

During this 6 months you may be signpost them onto other things such as Princes Trust, National Citizens Service etc. Once you achieve one of the outcomes, you will be support for a further 6 months.

The person to contact other than your carer is Anne Marie Longden, her number is 07972 681819 and her e-mail is [annemarie.longden@groundworkcheshire.org.uk](mailto:annemarie.longden@groundworkcheshire.org.uk)

## Further Education –

There is a variety of top class colleges in the area that will enable you to continue your education and/or provide training. The following colleges offer further education in Cheshire West and Chester, and in Cheshire East.

- [Macclesfield college](#) – Macclesfield
  - <http://www.macclesfield.ac.uk/>
  - Information & Advice: 01625 410002,
  - email: [info@macclesfield.ac.uk](mailto:info@macclesfield.ac.uk)
- [Mid Cheshire college](#), Northwich and Winsford -
  - <http://www.midchesh.ac.uk/>
  - Phone: 01606 74444
  - email: [info@midchesh.ac.uk](mailto:info@midchesh.ac.uk)
- [Reaseheath college](#), Nantwich -
  - <http://www.reaseheath.ac.uk/>
  - Phone 01270 613242
  - Email: [enquiries@reaseheath.ac.uk](mailto:enquiries@reaseheath.ac.uk)
- [Sir John Deane's college \(sixth form\)](#) - Northwich
  - <http://www.sjd.ac.uk/>
  - Phone 01606 810020
  - Email is via an online query, <http://www.sjd.ac.uk/content/22/contact-sir-john-deanes-college>
- [South Cheshire college](#) Crewe -
  - <http://www.s-cheshire.ac.uk/newcamp/home.asp>
  - Phone 01270 654654
  - Email: [info@scc.ac.uk](mailto:info@scc.ac.uk)
- [West Cheshire college](#) – Chester and Ellesmere Port
  - <http://www.west-cheshire.ac.uk/>
  - Phone 01244 656100
  - Email: [info@west-cheshire.ac.uk](mailto:info@west-cheshire.ac.uk)

## Work Zones –

Work Zones are all you need to help you get back into work and are designed to provide all the help you need to get a job in one place.

These services represent a new level of collaboration between Jobcentre Plus, National Careers Service and Cheshire West and Chester Council, alongside partners such as Citizens Advice Bureau, local Housing Trusts, West and Mid Cheshire Colleges and key voluntary and community organisations.

The Work Zones provide help and advice when applying for jobs such as:

- Planning your job hunting
- Letters and job application forms.
- Writing a CV
- Applying for a job online

- Preparing for a job interview
- Volunteering whilst looking for work
- Self employment
- IT Skills from beginners to advanced
- Skills for Life—English and Maths
- Signpost you to the nearest KAONIX advisor so you can register and use that facility to match jobs to your skills and CV.
- Sector specific course ..... and much more!

You can contact your local Work Zone at;

- Northwich Work Zone, 01606 288540, northwichworkzone@cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk
- Winsford Work Zone, 01606 288908, winsfordworkzone@cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk
- Ellesmere Port Work Zone, 0151 356 6667,

## **Kaonix –**

The Internet is transforming the way people find jobs with access to work now quicker and easier than ever before. Kaonix is a software search package that matches your skills and education to job vacancies, it will give you;

- Access to virtually all UK job vacancies
- Daily updates of job skills
- Matching your criteria to relevant jobs
- Identification of transferable skills
- Better matches, therefore more potential interviews
- Apprenticeships
- Direct links to Universal Job Match system

The system is currently only available at venues across Northwich and Winsford however if you contact a trained advisor they will get you registered online and guide you through the quick and easy process of using the Kaonix system.

These are the venues you can contact for help;

- Northwich Work Zone, 01606 288540, northwichworkzone@cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk
- Winsford Work Zone, 01606 288908, winsfordworkzone@cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk
- Northwich Library, 01606 44221, northwich.library@cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk
- Winsford Library, 01606 275065, winsford.library@cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk
- Wharton Library, 01606 271572, Wharton.library@cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk
- Cheshire Community Development Trust (CCDT), 01606 723182, work@cheshirecdt.org.uk
- The Edge Community Centre (WINCAP), 01606 551766, wincap@wincap.co.uk
- Mid-Cheshire College \*\*ask for a careers appointment, 01606 74444, careers@midchesh.ac.uk
- Weaver Vale Housing Trust, 01606 813300, workteam@wvht.co.uk

## **Libraries -**

All the Cheshire West and Chester libraries also provide access to computers (free for 1 hour per day) and offer basic I.T. tuition in all our libraries. Libraries provide a wealth of training and educational materials in the form of book stock as well as a wide range of online resources (eResources) via [www.cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk/libraries](http://www.cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk/libraries). It is free to join the library service and no ID is required.

## **Volunteering -**

Volunteering is simple. It's about giving your time to do something useful, without getting paid (apart from expenses). In return you get the satisfaction of time and effort well spent. In addition, volunteering can be a great way to: meet new people, learn new skills, gain useful experience, and it should also be fun!

The Do It website <http://www.do-it.org.uk/> is a national website to help people find a volunteering experience.

In Cheshire West and Chester there is a group of organisations that can help you work out where you would like to volunteer and can offer free information and advice.

- Chester Voluntary Action – Tel: 01244 323527, **email:** [enquiries@chesterva.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@chesterva.org.uk)
- Cheshire Community Action (Northwich) – **Tel:** 01606 350042, **Email:** [enquiries@cheshireaction.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@cheshireaction.org.uk)
- EPNAVCO (Ellesmere Port) – **Tel:** (0151)-356-7358, **Email:** [chris@epnavco.org.uk](mailto:chris@epnavco.org.uk)

Cheshire West and Chester Council can provide a variety of volunteering opportunities; David Rawlinson, 01606 275693, [david.rawlinson@cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk](mailto:david.rawlinson@cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk)