

Delivering Outstanding Exceptional Apprenticeships

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New Report Card & toolkit.

(First inspections started November 2025)

16 (college) or **6** (training provider) possible judgement grades but no overall grade

Each evaluation area will be judged as (apart from Safeguarding):

- Exceptional
- Strong Standard
- Expected Standard
- Needs Attention
- Urgent Improvement

grades explained

Our grades explained

[Close X](#)

Exceptional

Practice is exceptional: of the highest standard nationally. Other providers can learn from it.

Strong standard

The provider reaches a strong standard. Leaders are working above the standards expected of them.

Expected standard

The provider is fulfilling the expected standard of education and/or care. This means they are following the standards set out in statutory and non-statutory legislation and the professional standards expected of them.

Needs attention

The expected standards are not met but leaders are likely able to make the necessary improvements.

Urgent improvement

The provider needs to make urgent improvements to provide the expected standard of education and/or care.

The report card for Further Education and Skills

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Leadership and governance*

- Exceptional
- Strong standard
- Expected standard
- Needs attention
- Urgent improvement

Inclusion*

- Exceptional
- Strong standard
- Expected standard
- Needs attention
- Urgent improvement

Safeguarding*

- Met
- Not met

*all providers

Contribution to meeting skills needs**

- Exceptional
- Strong standard
- Expected standard
- Needs attention
- Urgent improvement

**only in colleges, 6th form colleges and specialist-designated institutions

Education programmes for young people***

Curriculum, teaching and training

- Exceptional
- Strong standard
- Expected standard
- Needs attention
- Urgent improvement

Achievement

Participation and development

Adult learning programmes***

Curriculum, teaching and training

- Exceptional
- Strong standard
- Expected standard
- Needs attention
- Urgent improvement

Achievement

Participation and development

Apprenticeships***

Curriculum, teaching and training

- Exceptional
- Strong standard
- Expected standard
- Needs attention
- Urgent improvement

Achievement

Participation and development

Provision for learners with high needs***

Curriculum, teaching and training

- Exceptional
- Strong standard
- Expected standard
- Needs attention
- Urgent improvement

Achievement

Participation and development

***funded programmes and as applicable

So, for Apprenticeships:

- No overall grade
- Apprenticeships will be graded on three judgements:
 - Curriculum, teaching & training (handout)
 - Achievement
 - Participation & Development

*Learning is defined as an alteration in long-term memory. If nothing has altered in long-term memory nothing has been learned. **Progress means knowing more and remembering more.***

(Kirschner, Sweller and Clark, 2006)



What is an 'EXCEPTIONAL' apprenticeship?

1. Curriculum, teaching and training (strong +):

- *Staff design and teach an exceptionally high-quality curriculum that inspires apprentices and promotes their interest and engagement. Teaching and training across all programmes and learning environments enable apprentices to master the knowledge, skills and behaviours that they require.*

What is an 'EXCEPTIONAL' apprenticeship?

2. Achievement (strong +):

- **All** achievement rates are high for apprentices
- **All** apprentices develop exceptionally high levels of subject knowledge and skill in relation to their starting points, *in particular those who are disadvantaged*, those with SEND or high needs, those who are known (or previously known) to social care, and those who may face other barriers to their learning and/or well-being, including those without level 2 English and/or mathematics.
This is demonstrated in the theoretical and practical work they produce. **(date all work)**
- Actions have a transformational impact on the readiness of apprentices for their future careers or study pathways. – **(how do you measure future progress?)**

■ JE's list of what supports an 'Exceptional' apprenticeship?

- Data - mitigation of risk (retention not pass rate)
- End date
 - Never should be the same
 - Set by?
 - Never July or August
- Planning on and off the job training
- Giving quality feedback
- Learning barriers & starting points (3 steps)
- Block or day release?

Murder Mystery

1. Victim ?
2. Murderer ?
3. Weapon ?
4. When ?
5. Where ?
6. Why ?

From PD to P&D

‘Participation and Development’

Session design –

Aims / Objectives / Learning Outcomes (is this a secret?)

- Knowledge
- Skills
- Attributes

(CEIAG, Diversity 'Protected Characteristics')

Participation and Development

- High expectations for attendance , behaviours and attitudes
- age-appropriate understanding of the protected characteristics defined by the Equality Act 2010
- Fundamental British Values
- Prevent agenda
- Diversity
- careers education and guidance in different apprentice contexts



MARKETPLACE



Marketplace

Stage 1	Preparation	10 mins
Stage 2	Research	5 mins
Stage 3	Peer teaching	5 mins
Stage 4	Test	5 mins

Thank you for listening and participating!



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