



# Apprenticeship Reform – Changes for Apprentices

## What's changing?

Some of these changes may apply to you, depending on your programme and when you started.

Impacts **new starters and existing apprentices:**



**Your pay:** From **1 April 2026**, the Apprentice Minimum Wage rises to **£8.00 per hour**. If you are 19+ and in your second year, your rate jumps even higher (e.g. to **£10.85** if you're 19–20).



**The 'exit' rules (19+ only):** If you are 19 or older, you no longer *have* to pass Level 2 English and Maths exams to finish your apprenticeship. You can choose to skip them if your employer agrees that you have the skills.

Impacts **new starters only:**



**End-Point Assessment (EPA):** It's being renamed simply to **'Apprenticeship Assessment'**, with a move toward continuous, on-programme assessment.



From **1 April 2026**, the Apprentice Minimum Wage rises to

**£8.00** per hour

## What's staying the same?



**Continuous support:** Your course is fully funded and protected from start to finish, regardless of wider system updates.



**Your qualification:** The certificate you get at the end is still worth exactly the same to future employers. The value of your apprenticeship hasn't changed.



**Assessment standards:** While the way things are assessed might be evolving, the rigour required to pass remains high.



**Support structures:** Access to tutors, mentors, and learning platforms continues as planned.