

If at first you don't succeed, try, try again

Apprenticeships are real jobs and therefore individuals will need to participate in a competitive application, recruitment and selection process. For some employers this could be a fairly short process of an application and interview, but for other positions this could mean months of working through multiple application stages and activities. It is likely that your child will need to apply for a few vacancies before they are successful in securing the perfect apprenticeship for them.

Below are a few recommendations of how to keep your child on track to securing an apprenticeship that they will be happy in.



1. REMAIN POSITIVE

Positivity is key when searching for an apprenticeship, especially after facing setbacks. Reassure your child that these are competitive places and in no way have they failed by not getting the first apprenticeship that they apply for. Try to encourage them to reflect on what went well and anything they might change for future applications.



2. STAY ENGAGED

After facing rejection, it can be difficult to remain enthusiastic and excited about opportunities. Help your child to stay engaged with the application process by searching for vacancies with them. You can receive alerts for new vacancies by registering on Find an apprenticeship:

<https://www.gov.uk/apply-apprenticeship>



3. SEEK ASSISTANCE WITH THE APPLICATION PROCESS

A second pair of eyes is always helpful when checking through an application. This can be a useful way of spotting any grammatical or spelling errors, as well as making sure your child has answered the questions appropriately. A teacher or careers leader at your child's school or college is a good place to get some constructive feedback on an application.



4. PRACTICE MAKES PERFECT

If there is an element of the application and recruitment process that your child is anxious about, try and take some time to practice this with them. For example, you could ask them mock interview questions or help them to practice a presentation. If they don't want to be interviewed by you, perhaps ask a family friend.



5. CHECK OUT VACANCY SNAPSHOT

Vacancy Snapshot features virtual profiles for some of the UK's top employers. They have listed top tips for their application processes and give a unique insight into what they are looking for. Even if your child is applying to a smaller employer, these profiles may give your child some inspiration on how to approach the application process and which of their personal qualities they may wish to focus on in their written applications.

<https://amazingapprenticeships.com/vacancies>