



» BCoT

BULLETIN

October 2019

Welcome from the Principal

Welcome to the latest newsletter from Basingstoke College of Technology (BCoT).

The start of the academic year is always a busy and exciting time. This year we are really pleased to welcome an increased number of students to the college compared to last year, as well as offering a range of new courses and apprenticeship programmes.

We are looking forward to continuing our work with a diverse range of local and national employers over the next 12 months through apprenticeships and work experience opportunities. We are also starting to plan for National Apprenticeship Week, which takes place between Monday 3 and Friday 7 February 2020.

Thank you for your continued support and we look forward to working with you over the next 12 months.



Anthony Bravo, Principal



'Fire it up' campaign sparks into life again

The Department for Education's (DfE) apprenticeships campaign 'Fire It Up' is once again live, after re-launching earlier this month.

The campaign, which was first launched in January 2019, aims to encourage people and employers to consider studying, or providing, apprenticeship programmes. Since launching, the campaign has seen a 10% increase in young people's consideration of apprenticeships.*

The DfE states that "*the second phase of the campaign continues to target broad audiences such as young people and parents but will also focus activity on those audiences that contribute to widening participation in apprenticeships such as those from disadvantaged backgrounds, women in under-represented sectors, low paid workers, people with learning difficulties or disabilities and people from ethnic minority backgrounds*".

To find out more about the campaign and how you can get involved, visit the [gov.uk website](https://www.gov.uk).

*ESFA Business Update - Issue 47

Advertise your vacancies with Aspiral Learning

If you are looking to enhance your organisation's workforce and hire an apprentice, advertise your vacancies free of charge with Aspiral Learning!

Whether you have a history of hiring apprentices, or you are looking to add a new dimension to your workforce, the team at Aspiral Learning will be able to share your vacancies with our best and brightest students here at BCoT.

As well as having your opportunities listed on our "Apprenticeship Vacancies" page on our website, we will also advertise your positions for free across our Aspiral Learning social media channels to find you the right applicant for your position.

For more information about advertising your apprenticeships with Aspiral Learning, please email business@bcot.ac.uk or call 01256 306237.



BCoT apprentices nominated for annual award

We are proud to announce that two BCoT engineering apprentices have been shortlisted for the 2019 Southern Manufacturing Apprentice of the Year Awards.

Darryl King, 26, and Caitlyn Smith, 21, have been shortlisted for the category for companies with a turnover of under £20 million, after completing their apprenticeships with BCoT this summer.

Caitlyn recently achieved a Level 4 Apprenticeship in Engineering, whilst Darryl also recently completed his Level 3 Apprenticeship in Engineering.

The awards, which celebrate the achievements of engineering and manufacturing apprentices in the Thames Valley and Solent & South Central region, culminate in a presentation at the Manufacturing Technology Centre in Coventry, on Wednesday 2 October 2019.

We would like to wish the best of luck to both Darryl and Caitlyn.

Off-the-job training guidance

updated for 2019-20

As set out in the Apprenticeships Regulations 2017, all apprentices must receive a minimum of 20% off-the-job occupational training.

Over the summer, the ESFA have been updating their range of off-the-job training support materials to bring them in line with the 2019 to 2020 apprenticeship funding rules text.

The suite of materials, which were released earlier this month include:

- New guide with additional clarity and more FAQs
- Updated commitment statement
- New infographic to help you determine what counts
- Off-the-job training mythbusters

You can find all of the updated guidance materials online via the [gov.uk website](https://www.gov.uk).

Top tips for employers looking to attract young talent

If you are looking to hire young talent to join your organisation, HR Magazine has recently sat down with Ashleigh James, an apprentice at O2, to discuss why she decided to join an apprenticeship scheme, instead of going to study at university.

In the interview, Ashleigh gives her top tips for employers who are looking to attract young talent.

Find out how to attract the best young talent on the [HR Magazine website](https://www.hr-magazine.com).



Apprenticeship Fair: Monday 3 February

We are excited to announce that our first Apprenticeship Recruitment Fair of the academic year will take place on Monday 3 February 2020.

Part of National Apprenticeship Week, this popular event gives organisations the chance to advertise their apprenticeship vacancies to more than 300 young people and local residents.

To register your interest in exhibiting at the event free of charge, email business@bcot.ac.uk.



Work experience opportunities available with BCoT

We believe that one of the best ways students can be ready for the world of work is to gain work experience and put the skills they have learnt into practice.

To ensure all of our students have this opportunity, we are looking for a range of employers who would be willing to support our students with valuable work experience placements which can range between 35 hours and 45 days.

To find out more about how you can get involved and offer work experience, email wex@bcot.ac.uk or call **01256 306339**.

National Apprenticeship Awards 2019 regional winners announced

The National Apprenticeship Awards 2019 regional winners have been announced, with apprentices from a wide range of industries and occupations now progressing to the national stage of the National Apprenticeship Awards 2019.

The full list of winners can be found on the gov.uk website.

Apprentice of the month

BCoT student Max Boon is currently studying a Level 3 Apprenticeship in Gas Engineering with EB Boiler Services Limited.

“My apprenticeship is helping me become a qualified heating engineer, and BCoT is the only college in north Hampshire that offers the course I need. I have really enjoyed my days at the college with my classmates and teachers, and the skills I am learning at BCoT are being put to good use when I am out of the college at work.”



Dates for your diary

3-7 FEB National Apprenticeship Week 2020

3 FEB BCoT Apprenticeship Recruitment Fair
4.30pm to 7pm
Basingstoke College of Technology

15 JUN BCoT Apprenticeship Recruitment Fair
4.30pm to 7pm
Basingstoke College of Technology

01256 354141 bcot.ac.uk information@bcot.ac.uk

@bcot

BasingstokeCollegeofTechnology

basingstoke-college-of-technology

instabcot

Basingstoke College of Technology
Worting Road
Basingstoke
Hampshire
RG21 8TN