



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

How can I
develop my
skills and get
qualified?

The answer is
Apprenticeships.

Life as an Apprentice

Who better to tell you about the successes and challenges than some of our recent apprentices? We hope they inspire you to be our next success story.

Eli Sumner

Automobile Technician and business owner, Cardiff

Eli has loved cars for as long as he can remember. So, when he was sixteen he decided to take up a three-year Mechanical Apprenticeship with his local Halfords Autocentre.

The Apprenticeship gave Eli the hands on experience he was looking for, helping him to find the ambition and drive to progress in his career. In fact, when he finished he felt so motivated that he decided to set up his own mobile mechanic business.

"The apprenticeship made me want to learn more and push myself to be a better mechanic. It's changed my life and I'm so proud of everything I've achieved."

Harriet Morris

Highways Local Government Operative, Powys County Council

Harriet, from Llanidloes, felt the pressure to make a decision about her career:

"I worked hard in school to get good grades, but it never came easy to me. Despite doing well in my A-levels, I was nervous the work at university would get even harder."

"My parents were really surprised when I applied to do an Apprenticeship as a local environment operative at Powys County Council. I am an outdoorsy girl, but they'd never thought I'd ever be interested in anything related to construction or engineering."

"The money is good and I really love being outside in all weathers. My parents are really proud of me too!"

Dewi Foulkes

Assistant Technician, Real SFX Cardiff

After undertaking an Apprenticeship in Creative and Digital Media, Dewi is pursuing a successful career as an assistant technician at Real SFX in Cardiff.

The company specialises in special effects and props for film and events, as well as for TV programmes including Doctor Who, Sherlock and Casualty.

"Learning on the job helped me gain practical experience and enabled me to progress quickly to assistant technician."

"I absolutely love working in the SFX industry as no two days are ever the same. My typical day could be spent doing anything from rig building to blowing up a Dalek."

Cara Evans

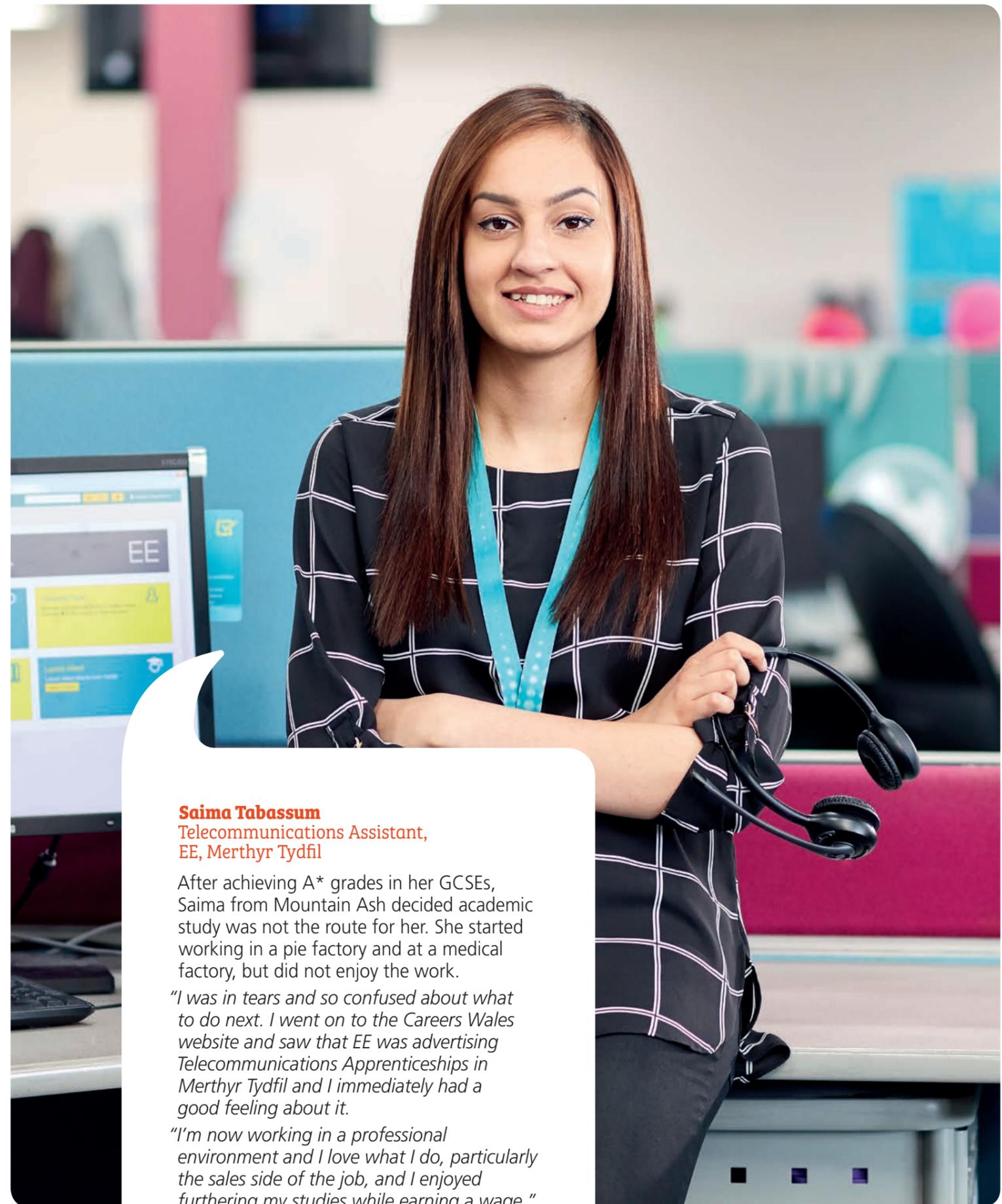
Childcare Assistant, Tiny Tots, Treforys

Cara started a level one Welsh language Traineeship in childcare at Treforys Tiny Tots before progressing to a level three Apprenticeship.

"I saw the Traineeship at the nursery as my chance to start getting some experience to do what I loved."

"Throughout my Apprenticeship, I have found my Welsh really useful. The parents like the fact that I speak Welsh and that I am helping their children to develop during their time at the nursery."

"Starting on a Traineeship and progressing to an Apprenticeship has enabled me to continue working in a job I love while gaining qualifications which will benefit me in the future."



Saima Tabassum

Telecommunications Assistant, EE, Merthyr Tydfil

After achieving A* grades in her GCSEs, Saima from Mountain Ash decided academic study was not the route for her. She started working in a pie factory and at a medical factory, but did not enjoy the work.

"I was in tears and so confused about what to do next. I went on to the Careers Wales website and saw that EE was advertising Telecommunications Apprenticeships in Merthyr Tydfil and I immediately had a good feeling about it."

"I'm now working in a professional environment and I love what I do, particularly the sales side of the job, and I enjoyed furthering my studies while earning a wage."

Matthew Edwards
Butcher, Vaughan's Butchers, Penyfford

Matthew Edwards from Wrexham is now well on the way to running his own business. After undertaking a series of Apprenticeships in basic and advanced butchery skills, he has been able to progress onto the Level 4 of the Higher Apprenticeship in Meat and Poultry managerial and supervisory skills and is keen to set up his own butchers shop.

"I soon realised that I had a real talent for it and haven't looked back since I undertook my first Apprenticeship with Jones Butchers in Llangollen."

"It is also great to know exactly what additional qualifications I need to achieve my goal of running my own butchers."





How can I find out more?

Contact Careers Wales for all the help, advice and support you need to start your Apprenticeship.

If you've been inspired by the opportunity to earn while you learn through an Apprenticeship there are lots of ways to find out the facts.

We'll support you every step of the way and can match you to the perfect opportunity.

For more information about becoming an apprentice, visit **careerswales.com** or call **0800 028 4844**.

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