

Apprenticeship Trailblazer for Creative Venue Technician

The ABTT is working with the 14 employers who have made a successful bid to develop a new apprenticeship standard for the occupation of Creative Venue Technician at Level 3. The employers are Ambassador Theatre Group, White Light Ltd, Glyndebourne Productions, Really Useful Group, English National Opera, Quartermaster Film Studios, Fairfield Halls, Croydon, Royal Opera House, South Bank Centre, Stage Technologies, The Backstage Centre, National Theatre and Panalux and Creative England. Other stakeholders in the project are University of the Arts London and BECTU. The Trailblazer process seeks to implement four key measures:

- Put employers in the driving seat. Apprenticeships will be based on standards designed by employers, making them more relevant and therefore more attractive to existing and new employers.
- Increase the quality of apprenticeships. An apprentice will need to demonstrate their competence through rigorous and holistic assessment. This will focus on the end of the apprenticeship to ensure that the apprentice is ready to progress.
- Simplify the system. The new employer-designed standards will be short and easy to understand. They will describe the skills, knowledge and behaviour that an individual needs to be fully competent in an occupation.
- Give employers purchasing power. Putting control of government funding for the external training of apprentices in the hands of employers, to empower businesses to act as customers, driving up the quality and relevance of such training.

The latest government guidance states:

Employers working together to design the standards and assessment plans for apprenticeships is a key feature of the new system, as it will lead to apprenticeships that are of higher quality and more relevant to your industry. By getting involved in developing the standards for occupations in your sector, you will have the opportunity to define the skills, knowledge and behaviour that you require in your future workforce and which training subsidised by government will deliver. This, in turn, will mean that apprenticeships can more directly support your business to grow and prosper. In view of the “open policy” approach which we are taking to apprenticeship reform, getting involved in Trailblazers also gives you the opportunity to influence the policy development process.

The ABTT will be encouraging widespread consultation but if you have a particular interest in participating in the Trailblazer, please contact the ABTT Office at office@abtt.org.uk