

Train Tameside 500 Newsletter



Creating apprenticeship and training opportunities across Tameside

Train Tameside 500 launched by local MPs

December 2025 Issue 1

Meet the Train Tameside 500 ambassadors

The launch of Train Tameside 500 (TT500) celebrated the awards of TT500 ambassador status to five employers based in Tameside. The employers were recognised for their passion and enthusiasm in delivering apprenticeships, training and skills in the borough. Each employer demonstrates a shining example of success and excellence in developing their workforce. Find out more inside for their advice to Tameside employers



Tameside
College



"An excellent council"

Train Tameside 500 initiative given boost by local MPs and employers



Local MPs, councillors and key employers support Tameside College's Train Tameside 500 initiative in collaboration with Tameside Council to create new training opportunities in the borough.

Train Tameside 500 is a two-year project to encourage employers to sign up a total of 500 apprentices and help meet growing skill demands in all sectors including high demand areas such as construction, engineering, automotive and health and social care.

The campaign was launched during an event in the college's Restaurant at Tameside One, on Friday 24th October, which was attended by prominent local politicians, including Jonathan Reynolds, MP for Stalybridge, Angela Rayner, MP for Ashton, Councillor Eleanor Wills, leader of Tameside Council and Harry Catterall, chief executive of Tameside Council.

Jonathan said: "It was great to speak at the launch event for Train Tameside 500 alongside my friend and colleague Angela Rayner. It was brilliant to see Tameside College, Tameside Council and business partners come together to kick off a programme that will support 500 local residents into training

and employment. It was also a privilege to present the ambassador awards to employers. This initiative reflects the best of what we can achieve through partnership, local ambition, national policy, and a shared commitment to opportunity."

Carl Shaw, assistant principal at Tameside College, said: "As the leading further education provider and number one provider of apprenticeships in Tameside, we are working alongside Tameside Council to encourage employers to consider apprenticeships and work experience placements. I'd like to thank our employer ambassadors who are a fantastic example of how the collaboration between education and industry can thrive."


Tim Bowes, head of academy at Whitecroft Lighting, said: "We believe training is so important because it allows us as a business to deliver the right growth and skills required to drive our business for the future. We are now getting the right people in the right jobs and they can see how they help in growing the business. It's also a clear pathway to success"

#joinTT500

Meet the TT500 ambassadors



Advice to employers considering apprenticeships:




'Work closely with local colleges to gain the correct skills for their careers and industry.'

Warren Young, Whitecroft Lighting




'To see training as an investment, not a cost.'

Kerry Gilham, Diamond Decorators (UK) Ltd.



'The future of your business depends on the skills you develop today.'

Charlotte Yates, Hyde Group Ltd.



'Do it! The investment of time and sharing your own knowledge and skills is rewarded tenfold.'

Sam Duncan, Willow Wood Hospice



'Go for it and make it part of your long-term plan.'

Frank O'Sullivan, Tameside MBC

#joinTT500



'An excellent council'

Find out more

Innovation:

Supports businesses in Tameside identify growth opportunities, drives innovation and help navigate operational challenges.

The Innovation team can help your business by developing tailored action plans, facilitating workshops on leadership, productivity and emerging technologies as well as connecting businesses with relevant education and funding opportunities.

Apprenticeships:

Supports employers recruit the right apprentices to support to develop the workforce and meet business needs.

The Apprentice team can deliver the most appropriate apprenticeship programme to support your business. They will manage the vacancy and recruitment process and support with training and assessment throughout the apprenticeship. The team will also advise on apprenticeship funding.

Work Experience

Works with employers to develop a programme of placements, experiences and training for college students that help shape the curriculum and the skills of future employees.

The Work Experience team links the college curriculum with employers to enhance the employability skills of future employees.

Contact

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Events for employers

20/11/2025 - 8:00am
TT500 Employer Event
Eventbrite (Online)
Apprenticeships

28/11/2025 - 8:30am-1:00pm
CDI Event
Beaufort Road
GM Colleges

15/12/2025 - 8:00am
TT500 Employer Event
Eventbrite (Online)
Apprenticeships

05/01/2026 - All Day
Industry Placement Day
Off site
Work Experience

14/01/2026 - 8:00am
TT500 Employer Event
Online (Eventbrite)
Apprenticeships

20/01/2026 - 9:30am-12:30pm
AI Essentials Event
Tameside/Oldham College
Innovation

27/01/2026 - 9.30am - 12.30pm
Healthy Teams, Stronger Business - Explore Tameside's Wellbeing Support Event
Tameside One, The Restaurant
Innovation

03/02/2026 - 6:00pm (TBC)
Apprenticeship Awards
Dukinfield Town Hall
Marketing / Apprenticeships

04/02/2026 - 6:00pm (TBC)
AI Co-Pilot and Microsoft
Eventbrite (Online)
Innovation

12/02/2026 - 10:00am-1:00pm
Apprenticeship Fair
Beaufort Road
Apprenticeships

17/02/2026 - 8:00am
TT500 Employer Event
Eventbrite (Online)
Apprenticeships

March 2026 (Date TBC)
Post 16 Event
Dukinfield Town Hall
Local Authority

03/03/2026 - 11:00am-2:00pm
Careers and Employability Event
Beaufort Road
Work Experience

05/03/2026 - 11:00am-2:00pm
Careers and Employability Event
Clarendon / Tameside One
Work Experience

19/03/2026 - 8:00am
TT500 Employer Event
Eventbrite (Online)
Apprenticeships

27/03/2026 - All Day
Industry Placement Day
Off site
Work Experience

01/04/2026 - 10.00am - 1.00pm
Spring Jobs Fair
Dukinfield Town Hall
Local Authority

If you're interested in taking part in any of these events, please contact the relevant teams mentioned above.