

# What is an Apprenticeship Framework?

There are a number of elements to each Apprenticeship and this is called the **Framework**. This means you will get a range of qualifications as you progress through your training and education.

Each **Apprenticeship Framework** has three main strands:

- a **competence based element**
- a **knowledge based element**
- a **skills element**

The three strands are sometimes accompanied by additional qualifications to give the most relevant skills and knowledge required for the job that you are employed in.

The framework is developed by employers and the Sector Skills Council ensuring that you will be doing the exact skills required by an employer, whilst also developing new skills. There are over 190 frameworks covering 80 sectors ranging from Accountancy to Youth Work.

There are three levels of framework	Typically
Apprenticeship Framework	Level 2 competence Level 2 knowledge Skills at Level 1 and Level 2
Advanced Apprenticeship Framework	Level 3 competence Level 3 knowledge Skills at Level 2 and Level 3
Higher Apprenticeship Framework	Level 4 competence Level 4 knowledge Skills at Level 3

You will gain nationally recognised certificates for each element of the framework.

Once you have completed all the elements of the framework you will receive an Apprenticeship certificate.

# Framework Components

Components	Description
<b>Competence Element – NVO</b>  <b>1</b>	This is a Nationally Recognised Qualification (NVO) which gives you the skills that you need to do a job. It is based on a series of competencies which are mapped to your job role. As you carry out activities at work you gather work-based evidence and are assessed against the competencies. Once you have been assessed and have successfully met the required competencies of the NVO requirements you will be awarded the qualification. NVOs are available from level 1 – 5 allowing you to progress throughout your career.
<b>Knowledge Based Element - Technical Certificate</b>  <b>2</b>	A technical certificate is a knowledge based qualification which helps you develop your understanding of an industry or role. It supports you to do your job safely and is a specialised course of study. Completion of the technical certificate confirms you have developed information that is vital to the performance of tasks associated with your profession or job. A technical certificate can sometimes be a BTEC, Diploma or specific industry qualification.
<b>Skills Element – Key Skills and Functional Skills</b>  <b>3</b>	To enable you to function at the level required for your job role you will complete a range of functional skills. These could be Maths, English or ICT depending on your job role; these skills relate to real life and give you the ability to function across your organisation and in life generally. They will help you to develop important skills like communication, team work, problem solving and presentations; will support you to succeed, open doors to learning, life and work. They provide a sound base on which to develop employability skills, and are skills that we all need in our everyday life, without which you will find it hard to succeed.
<b>Other</b>	Other qualifications which can be included in your framework are Employment Rights and Responsibilities – they update your knowledge on your rights and responsibilities within your sector. You may have the choice to complete specialised qualifications and there may be further options for you and your employer to choose from.