



Jobs | Apprenticeships | Training

August 2024 Update



Walsall Council

01922 654353
walsallworks@walsall.gov.uk

Works+

Getting Ahead with Funded Placements

Walsall Works is thrilled to promote Works+, a fully funded work placement programme. This initiative offers a fantastic opportunity for employers to support local unemployed job seekers and benefit from subsidised placements.

What's on Offer?

- Employers receive £11.44 p/h to host a Walsall resident aged 18+ seeking employment
- Placements are 8 weeks long, up to 30 hours per week.
- Ideal for filling an existing vacancy with a potential to offer a job afterwards.



Who can participate?

We are especially keen to hear from employers in engineering, manufacturing, professional services, hospitality, health, and social care.

This is a win-win for both employers and job seekers. Let's work together to build a brighter future for Walsall!

Interested? Reach out to us today to learn more about how you can participate in this transformative programme by emailing rob.beck@walsall.gov.uk

Time to Prepare for Jobs this Christmas

It may be warm outside, but now is the time to look at the many opportunities available for Christmas jobs this year.

In Partnership with the Link we are hosting a Christmas Jobs Fair, come along to this free event to find out what seasonal opportunities the employers have to offer.

Date: Wednesday 14 August 2024

Time: 10am till 1pm

Location: The Link, Park Street, Walsall, WS1 1NG

Contact Walsall Works for more information:

01922 654353 and walsallworks@walsall.gov.uk



Apprenticeships

Your route to career success

Local businesses in Walsall are demonstrating a robust commitment to fostering the next generation of skilled workers through active participation in Walsall Works.

From engineering to hospitality, businesses are opening their doors to young talent, providing hands-on experience and professional development. This initiative not only equips apprentices with valuable skills but also addresses the local skills shortage, benefiting the wider economy.

So far in 2024, Walsall Works has supported 55 local employers in finding suitable candidates for their roles. Additionally, the programme actively supports pre-apprenticeship courses to ensure that a greater number of people are ready and able to start a new apprenticeship.

One of the challenges young people face is knowing about the range of professions and qualifications available. To address this, Walsall Works' experienced advisors provide career guidance and inform participants about the benefits and progression opportunities of each role.

As Walsall Works continues to thrive, the collective effort of local businesses underscores a community united in fostering growth, opportunity, and a brighter future for the younger generation.

The third Ladder for The Black Country Awards will take place on November 13th, 2024, at West Bromwich Albion Football Club.

Nominations are now open, the deadline for entries is Friday, September 13th, 2024.

Do you know an apprentice or business that deserves a recognition for all their hard work year?

If so you can submit your nominations using the following

link: <https://apprenticeshipawards.expressandstar.com/>

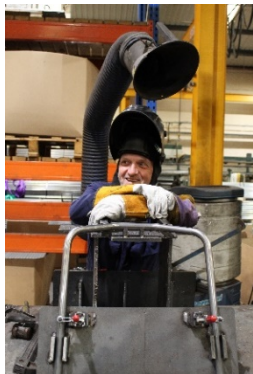
BB self-referred to Walsall Works at the end of September 2023. She had spent the past nearly seven years caring for her mother-in-law with Alzheimer's. Before this, she had worked as a District Nurse and a Palliative Care Nurse. On our first meeting, we completed BB's CV and discussed all the possibilities that we could look at and how she could see her career going forward.

BB was extremely proactive from the get-go, wholeheartedly getting involved and taking the opportunity to be referred and signposted to various providers. She started by completing the Returneeship Course with Release Potential, aimed at those aged 40+ as she liked the idea of acquiring IT skills along with gaining confidence techniques in going back to work. She also started a Digital Skills Course with Walsall College and signed up to Restless (which has opportunities for older workers), completing Walsall Works Skills Network training courses in Menopause and Organisation and Delegating. In November, BB completed a Civil Service Course.

With the training under her belt, in December, BB started looking at work opportunities and decided to go for an Apprenticeship Level 3 role within Wolverhampton Library. This was so that she could continue with the learning whilst also gaining valuable work experience in an administrative position. BB was successful at interview and is now enjoying her apprenticeship.

Recent Successes

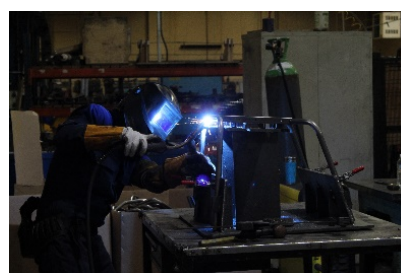
Moving into a New Career in a Few Weeks



Tony was referred by the local JCP in March 2024, looking for employability support. Tony had been unemployed for 10 years and he needed to ensure that he could find a job to work around his childcare due to being a single parent.

When Tony had worked as a Welder previously, he hadn't needed any qualifications however this was something he was interested in pursuing. Tony's advisor referred him to local training provider, Performance Through People, and after only six days, Tony began the 6-week training course with PTP to become a qualified welder. Tony committed his time to attending the course and was an eager student.

During the course, Tony completed a work placement two days a week with a local company, TBF International. They were so impressed with Tony that once he has passed the course in the beginning of May, they offered him a job! Tony has now been working with TBF International for the past few months. Operations Manager, Caroline, has applauded Tony's work ethic, "his attitude to work is just fantastic. He just gets on with it, gets his head down, and does anything you throw at him!"



The Missing Ingredient for Café Success



Angela contacted Walsall Works after hearing about our advisors out in the community. She visited Pelsall Village Centre directly to find out more information in January 2024.

Angela wanted support with updating her CV, job searching and interview techniques as she was getting interviews but not getting selected for the roles.

With Angela's permission, her advisor started to call interviewers to gain direct feedback and visited one café directly. It became apparent that Angela was not selling her experience enough. With that in mind, her advisor went through the use of the STAR technique to help Angela sell her skills to employers.

Angela's confidence increased but she just needed to find the right role for her.

In April, the perfect role came along working for Meli Café as Team Member in Cannock's McArthurGlen Designer Outlet. Angela was offered the role and was involved from the set up and opening of the café!



Self-Employment

Start-Up Business Support Programme for Walsall Entrepreneurs

Want to be your own boss? Or have a business idea but not sure where to start?

Walsall Works can connect you to support for Walsall start-up businesses, to grow economic prosperity and employment opportunities and helping new and growing businesses on behalf of Walsall Council, as part of a drive to build the town's economy.

This support is tailored for Walsall new businesses in the early stages of development and includes a suite of activities to create the foundations to shape growth. The Business Growth Walsall programme allows you to engage and access skills that will provide you with the right foundations to prepare, start and ensure the survival of your business.

Start-Up Seminar

- An awareness seminar introducing the opportunities and challenges of setting up your own business.

Business Bootcamp

- Focusing on business planning, finances, bookkeeping, sales and marketing, branding and social media platforms.

Follow-Up Support

- A one-to-one review of your business plan, identifying further support required that is tailored to meet your needs. Giving your business every chance of success.

If you wish to access this support, please contact us by return email to walsallworks@walsall.gov.uk and include Self Employment Support in the subject heading.

When PF registered with Walsall Works, he worked part time in retail to earn some money, but his dream was to gain employment in media. In his own time PF created video games, once his adviser knew this was something he wanted to pursue he was referred to Learn Play. The initial plan was for him to do an apprenticeship but unfortunately as he had already gained qualifications in a similar subject this didn't work out. PF's adviser was persistent and explained his skills to Learn Play and how much of an asset he would be to the company, because of this he was asked to do a presentation for Media Game development.

It was a success; he was offered the role as freelance tutor. With his confidence sky rocketing, PF decided to register his own business and is building new skills daily. PF's game is now on Google Play trial.



SPARK Visit

Investing in Walsall and Giving Back

Walsall Works organised a visit to SPARK, one of the largest physical infrastructure schemes in the UK.

24 young people from diverse backgrounds were given the chance to meet the team behind the development. It was great to witness first hand all the work that is being carried out to remediate the contaminated land at the former James Bridge Copper Works. The young people had the advantage of understanding the background of the site and the work currently being undertaken by JF Hunt and their supply chain, to prepare the land for the building phase. A tour of the site enabled the young people to get a sense of the size, scale and complexity of this multi-million-pound development and view computer generated images of how this will emerge into a state-of-the-art employment hub with the potential to create 1000 jobs in the coming years.



It was inspiring to see the genuine interest from the group about the types of careers that could be offered to local people from a site such as SPARK and the lead developer Henry Boot Development (HBD) were able to showcase the collaborative working and their track record of transforming unloved sites into thriving commercial employment hubs.

HBD have made a firm commitment to the Council to keep the opportunities on the site as local as possible with so much potential for the community, schools and local people to be engaged and access jobs at all stages of the scheme. To find out more or to register for future site visits contact walsallworks@walsall.gov.uk

Have Your Say on the Council's Priorities

Walsall's Draft Council Plan for 2025-2029 sets out our vision and priorities for the next four years, where our resources will be prioritised and how we will deliver against the We Are Walsall 2040 vision.

Before Our Council Plan 2025-2029 is approved we want to get your feedback.

To read the draft council plan and have your say, please visit <https://go.walsall.gov.uk/council-plan-consultation>.

If you need this information in an alternative format or need support to respond, please email policyandstrategy@walsall.gov.uk.

The consultation will close on the 18th September.

Provide your feedback now by scanning the QR code



The Link

One Stop Shop for Employability Support

The Link is a multi-agency employability support hub based in Walsall town centre on Park Street. We have a Walsall Works Advisors based there on a full-time basis. Since opening in January, we have received over 100 referrals from people who are seeking support to find employment. Walsall Works offers one to one appointments to help support individuals and help them move forward into work.

What's on in August



Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
			1 SD Employability Skills 9:30am-12:30pm Employment Support Coffee Drop In 10am-1pm	2 A Internet Café Drop-In 10am-12pm
5 Confidence & Motivation Workshop 10am - 12pm Functional Skills Initial Assessments 12:30pm-2:30pm	6 Volunteer Drop In 9:30am-12:30pm	7 Beginners Maths 10am-12pm CV Workshop 12:30pm-2:30pm Talking Therapies Employment Service 12pm-4pm	8 SD Employability Skills 9:30am-12:30pm Employment Support Coffee Drop In 10am-1pm	9 Job Club 10am-12pm & 1pm-3pm
12 Interview skills 10am-12pm	13 Volunteer Drop In 9:30am-12:30pm Cover Letters 10am-12pm	14 Christmas Jobs Fair 10am-1pm	15 SD Employability Skills 9:30am-12:30pm Employment Support Coffee Drop In 10am-1pm	16 A The Link Open Day 10am - 1pm
19 Functional Skills Initial Assessments 12:30pm-2:30pm	20 Job Application Support 10am - 3pm Volunteer Drop In 9:30am-12:30pm	21 Beginners Maths 10am-12pm Talking Therapies Employment Service 12pm-4pm CV Workshop 12:30pm-2:30pm	22 SD Employability Skills 9:30am - 12:30pm Employment Support Coffee Drop - in 10am - 1pm	23 Internet Café Drop-In 10am-12pm
26 Closed	27 Volunteer Drop In 9:30am-12:30pm	28 Beginners Maths 10am-12pm Talking Therapies Employment Service 12pm-4pm CV Workshop 12:30pm-2:30pm	29 SD Employability Skills 9:30am - 12:30pm Employment Support Coffee Drop - in 10am - 1pm	30 A Job Club 10am-12pm & 1pm-3pm

A Apprenticeship Recruitment Session **D** Digital Skills Session **S** Be Well Stop Smoking Clinic

Events

Our Walsall Works EXPO is back!



 Walsall
works

EXPO 2024

The Black Country's
Largest Job Fair

Come along and visit the largest jobs fair in the Black Country. Meet with over 80 employers offering both full time and part time positions. Come along and get support and advice to access and secure a long-term career.

Date: Thursday 12 September 2024

Time: 9am till 3pm

Location: The Hub @ Walsall College, Littleton Street West, Walsall WS2 8E

Please book using the following link:

<https://WWEXPOSeptember2024.eventbrite.co.uk/?aff=Newsletter>



Are you recruiting? We are still looking for employers to exhibit at our EXPO. You will get to speak to over 1,000 job seekers. For more details or to book a stand, contact us at walsallworks@walsall.gov.uk