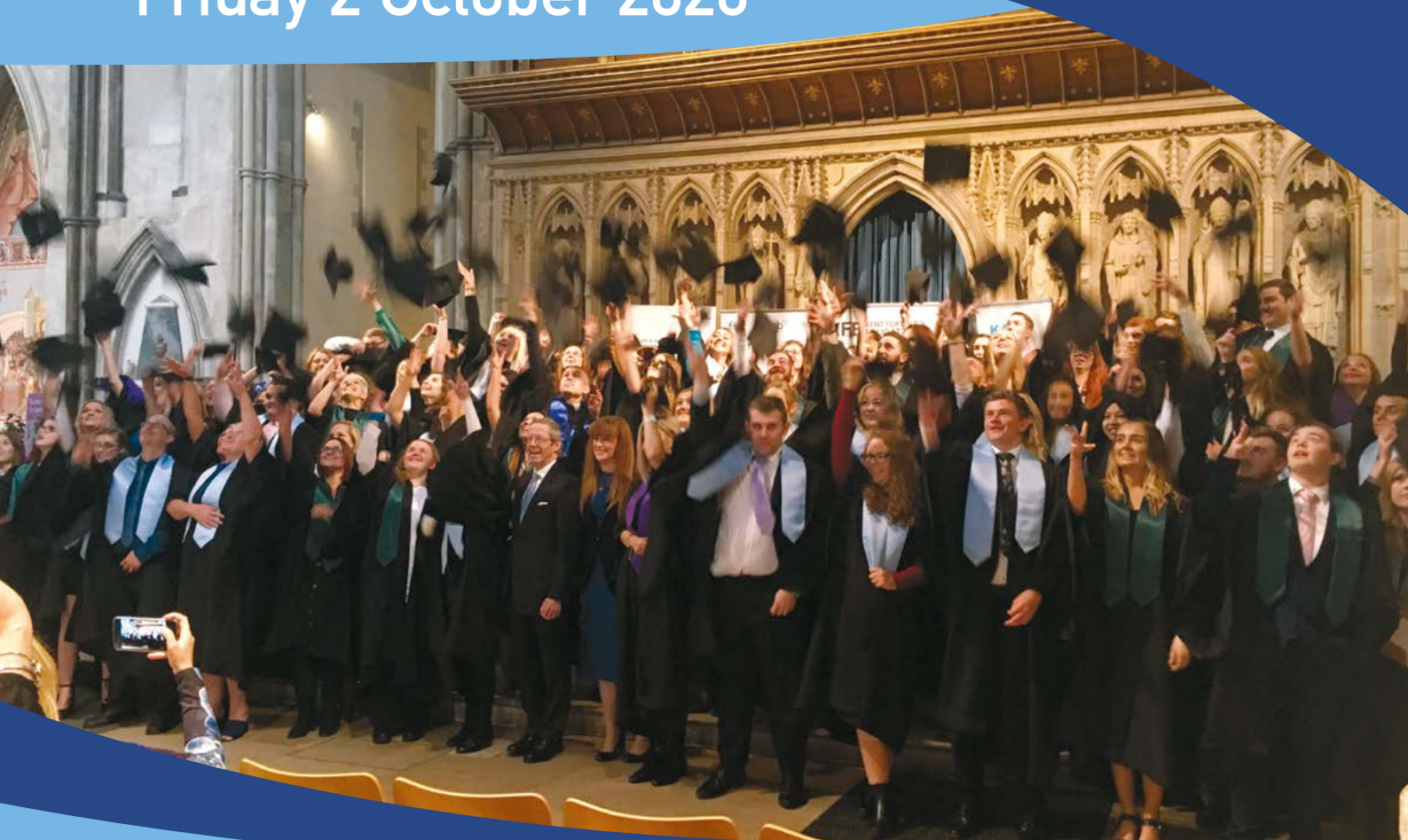


# Kent & Medway **Apprentice** **Graduation** Ceremony **2020**

Friday 2 October 2020



Apprenticeships

Virtual Event Memoir

## *Congratulations to each apprentice!*



2020 will be a year to be remembered, and for so many reasons. For you, I hope you look back and remember this year with great pride.

A very long time ago Publilius Syrus wrote that 'anyone can steer a ship in clear waters'. The year was 85BC and he was right. Anyone can pass exams when all is as it should be. It's when the going gets tough that you really have to prove yourself and you have proved your personal strength by being able to steer your ship through the turbulent storm of 2020.

No doubt your work, study and home life changed dramatically this year as we all navigated our way through lockdown. The fact that you managed to continue your apprenticeship and complete your qualification is a great testament to your strength and resilience.

Being an apprentice myself, I understand and fully appreciate your position. When I was 16, I began work as an apprentice at a car factory in Merseyside. I loved it. This experience helped me develop my career in multinational companies including General Motors, NatWest Bank and Mastercard. I am proud to be a former apprentice who is now the Minister for Apprenticeships and Skills where I can share my passion for apprenticeships across the country.

You should be very proud of your achievement - congratulations and I wish you all the best as you steer your personal path through your working life.

**Gillian Keegan MP**

*Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for Apprenticeships and Skills*



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## Virtual Graduation Proceedings

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- Sponsor address by Megger, Hayley Kennett
- Why hire apprentices by Catherine Upton BJF Group
- FSB address by Anthony Impey
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- An apprentice's experience with Mark Jones
- Graduate announcements part 3 with Nicola Everett
- ASK Apprenticeships and CXK address by Pauline Smith
- Thanks and close by Nicola Everett



ABM TRAINING UK LTD			
APPRENTICE NAME	TITLE	LEVEL	EMPLOYER
Zoe Thurston	Building Energy Management Systems	3	ABM Training UK Ltd
Clare Jeffrey	Care Leadership and Management	5	Kent Autistic Trust
Elisna Kemsley	Care Leadership and Management	5	Kent Autistic Trust
Jessica Lineham	Care Leadership and Management	5	Kent Autistic Trust

APPRENTICESHIP CONNECT			
APPRENTICE NAME	TITLE	LEVEL	EMPLOYER
Molly Allen	Business Administrator	3	Leigh Academies Trust

BPP EDUCATION GROUP			
APPRENTICE NAME	TITLE	LEVEL	EMPLOYER
Clare Jeffery	Insurance Practitioner	3	Marsh Ltd
Amy Lazell	Insurance Practitioner	3	Marsh Ltd

CITY & GUILDS			
APPRENTICE NAME	TITLE	LEVEL	EMPLOYER
Lisa Davis	Healthcare Support Worker	2	Age UK Medway

DOWNS MAIL NEWSPAPER			
APPRENTICE NAME	TITLE	LEVEL	EMPLOYER
Jade Schopman	Business and Administration	2	Downs Mail Newspaper

DYNAMIC TRAINING UK LTD			
APPRENTICE NAME	TITLE	LEVEL	EMPLOYER
Katie Cripps	Healthcare Support Worker	2	Maidstone and Tunbridge Wells NHS Trust
Kelly Dormer	Healthcare Support Worker	2	Maidstone and Tunbridge Wells NHS Trust
Hannah Francis	Healthcare Support Worker	2	Maidstone and Tunbridge Wells NHS Trust
Alice King	Healthcare Support Worker	2	Maidstone and Tunbridge Wells NHS Trust
Tracy Paxman	Healthcare Support Worker	2	Maidstone and Tunbridge Wells NHS Trust
Katherine Skinner	Healthcare Support Worker	2	Maidstone and Tunbridge Wells NHS Trust
Kayleigh Stanley	Healthcare Support Worker	2	Maidstone and Tunbridge Wells NHS Trust

DYNAMIC TRAINING UK LTD			
APPRENTICE NAME	TITLE	LEVEL	EMPLOYER
Alec Travis	Healthcare Support Worker	2	Maidstone and Tunbridge Wells NHS Trust
Kirstie Willett	Healthcare Support Worker	2	Maidstone and Tunbridge Wells NHS Trust
Molly Wilson	Healthcare Support Worker	2	Maidstone and Tunbridge Wells NHS Trust
Alec Travis	Healthcare Support Worker	2	Maidstone and Tunbridge Wells NHS Trust
Kirstie Willett	Healthcare Support Worker	2	Maidstone and Tunbridge Wells NHS Trust
Molly Wilson	Healthcare Support Worker	2	Maidstone and Tunbridge Wells NHS Trust

EKC GROUP WORKHIGHER			
APPRENTICE NAME	TITLE	LEVEL	EMPLOYER
Tanya Burford	Business and Administration	2	Furley Page
Esme Clarke	Business and Administration	2	Furley Page
Jordan Hennebery	Construction Building	2	Eastkent Brickwork
Molly Howson	Business and Administration	2	Junior Kings School
Blake Manton	Business and Administration	2	Dover District Council
Joseph Mcavoy	Business and Administration	2	Hydraquip
Ella Packman	Business and Administration	2	Dover Port
Rebecca Sartin	Business and Administration	2	Viking Recruitment
Skye Simmons	Business and Administration	2	Furley Page
Tallulah Streek	Business and Administration	2	VisitKent
Ryan Vaus	Engineering Manufacture	2	Scarb Sweepers
Jasmin Webb	Business and Administration	2	Hydraquip
Sharky Austin-Coskry	Business and Administration	3	Kent and Canterbury Hospital
Carly Besant	Laboratory Technician	3	East Kent Hospital University Foundation Trust NHS
Lucy Chaston	Children and Young People's Workforce	3	Channels and Choices
Shannon Clifford	Children and Young People's Workforce	3	Channels and Choices
Helen Dignam	Children and Young People's Workforce	3	Majestic Family Services
Charlotte Dunne	Children and Young People's Workforce	3	Channels and Choices
Michaela Golden	Business and Administration	3	Buckland Hospital
Jemma Green	Children and Young People's Workforce	3	Channels and Choices
Niall Harney	Insurance practitioner	3	Bridges Insurance Brokers Ltd
Jemma Jones	Business and Administration	3	Buckland Hospital
Chloe Knight	Business and Administration	3	Dover District Council
Chelsie Rigden	Team Leader / Supervisor	3	Canterbury Christ Church University
Elizabeth Rose	Laboratory Technician	3	East Kent Hospital University Foundation Trust NHS

ENCOMPASS CONSULTANCY			
APPRENTICE NAME	TITLE	LEVEL	EMPLOYER
Jackie Turner	Team Leader / Supervisor	3	Maldstone and Tunbridge Wells NHS Trust
Laura Gravenell	Operations / Departmental Manager	5	Maldstone and Tunbridge Wells NHS Trust

HAWK MANAGEMENT (UK) LIMITED			
APPRENTICE NAME	TITLE	LEVEL	EMPLOYER
Gary Burchett	Team leader / Supervisor	3	Megger Instruments Limited
Marzena Ditchman	Team leader / Supervisor	3	Megger Instruments Limited
Luke Harris	Team leader / Supervisor	3	Megger Instruments Limited
Christopher Hirst	Team leader / Supervisor	3	Megger Instruments Limited
Emily Howlett	Business Administrator	3	Megger Instruments Limited
Charlotte Howlett	Business Administrator	3	Megger Instruments Limited
Michael Hull	Team leader / Supervisor	3	Megger Instruments Limited
Alyce King	Team leader / Supervisor	3	Megger Instruments Limited
Stuart Stebbeds	Team leader / Supervisor	3	Megger Instruments Limited
Elaine Ellender	Operations / Departmental Manager	5	Megger Instruments Limited
Marios Nicholaou	Operations / Departmental Manager	5	Megger Instruments Limited

HENLEY BUSINESS			
APPRENTICE NAME	TITLE	LEVEL	EMPLOYER
Benjamin Chandler	Operations / Departmental Manager	5	Medway Foundation NHS Trust

IPS INTERNATIONAL LTD			
APPRENTICE NAME	TITLE	LEVEL	EMPLOYER
Harry Beadle	Business and Administration	2	IPS International Ltd
Deborah Buchan	Adult Care Worker	2	Avante Care & Support
Rachel Golding	Business and Administration	2	IPS International Ltd
Adam Blunt	Engineering Manufacture	3	BAE Systems
Tom Campbell	Engineering Manufacture	3	Coca Cola
Peter Cooper	Team Leader / Supervisor	3	Maldstone Borough Council
Isla Fox	Business Administrator	3	Swale Borough Council
Luke Glanville	Team Leader / Supervisor	3	Maldstone Borough Council
Darren Glover	Team Leader / Supervisor	3	Maldstone Borough Council
Harley Gorse	Engineering Manufacture	3	BAE Systems

IPS INTERNATIONAL LTD			
APPRENTICE NAME	TITLE	LEVEL	EMPLOYER
Ben Jamieson	Engineering Manufacture	3	BAE Systems
Steven McKenzie	Team Leader / Supervisor	3	Maldstone Borough Council
Ryan Miles	Business Administrator	3	Swale Borough Council
Robert Poynter	Engineering Manufacture	3	BAE Systems
Ben Sinclair	Engineering Manufacture	3	BAE Systems
Luke Thomas	Engineering Manufacture	3	BAE Systems
Morgan Tindall	Engineering Manufacture	3	BAE Systems
David Warren	Business Administrator	3	Swale Borough Council

KETTS			
APPRENTICE NAME	TITLE	LEVEL	EMPLOYER
Kelly Farthing	Floristry	3	Church Street Florists
Macey Latham	Floristry	3	Church Street Florists

KENT TRAINING & APPRENTICESHIPS			
APPRENTICE NAME	TITLE	LEVEL	EMPLOYER
Daisy Cousins	Business and Administration	2	Aquila - The Diocese of Canterbury Academics Trust
Sophie Fetterplace	Business and Administration	2	Ellenor
Sian Lawrence	Business and Administration	2	Kent County Council
Hannah Palmer	Supporting Teaching and Learning in Schools	2	Hope View School
Charlotte Swaine	Business and Administration	2	Swiss Reinsurance Company
Mason Dadson	Marketing Assistant	3	Future Schools Trust
Alexia Farmer	Business and Administration	3	Kent County Council - Community Learning and Skills
Brooke Williams	Business administrator	3	Faversham Town Council
Lucia Spoccia	Children and Young Peoples Workforce	3	Seashells Nursery Sheerness

LIFETIME			
APPRENTICE NAME	TITLE	LEVEL	EMPLOYER
Richard Boswell	Senior Healthcare Support Worker	3	Medway Foundation NHS Trust

MEDWAY ADULT EDUCATION			
APPRENTICE NAME	TITLE	LEVEL	EMPLOYER
Nicola Bonella	Business and Administration	2	Medway Council
Jason Faram	Business and Administration	2	Medway Council
Sasha Fraser	Business and Administration	2	Medway Council
Ajay Graham	Business and Administration	2	Medway Council
Mark Jones	Business and Administration	2	Medway Council
Kellie-May Mahler	Customer Service Practitioner	2	Medway Council
Sophie Powell	Business and Administration	2	Medway Council
Shannon Rogers	Business and Administration	2	Medway Council
Elouise Smith	Business and Administration	2	Medway Council
Jessica Somerville	Business and Administration	2	Medway Council
Toni Whitehead	Business and Administration	2	Medway Adult Education
Ricky Wong	Business and Administration	2	Medway Council
Samuel Cutts	Business and Administration	3	Medway Council
Lauren Hocking	Business and Administration	3	Medway Council
Deborah Omijie	Business and Administration	3	Medway Council
Jonathon Simms	Business and Administration	3	Medway Council

MIDKENT COLLEGE			
APPRENTICE NAME	TITLE	LEVEL	EMPLOYER
Catherine Cowper	Business and Administration	2	Inspire Academy
Niamh Langan	Business and Administration	2	Kelleher Utility Solutions
Jessica Moss	Business and Administration	2	Ferns Surfacing
Brooke Garrod	Business and Administration	3	Amaron Architectural
Millie Jones	Business and Administration	3	Invicta Grammar School
Stephanie Smith	Business and Administration	3	Kent Autistic Trust
Georgette Taylor	Business and Administration	3	The Halpern Charitable Foundation
Aaron Cogger	Manufacturing Engineering	4	Wire Belt Co Ltd

PROFILE			
APPRENTICE NAME	TITLE	LEVEL	EMPLOYER
Anna Baldwin	Teaching Assistant	3	Bromstone Primary School
Chloe Shepherd	Teaching Assistant	3	Hampton Primary School

PURECARE			
APPRENTICE NAME	TITLE	LEVEL	EMPLOYER
Chrissie Gross	Health and Social Care	3	PureCare

QA LTD			
APPRENTICE NAME	TITLE	LEVEL	EMPLOYER
Puttock	Infrastructure Technician	3	Medway Foundation NHS Trust

QUBE LEARNING			
APPRENTICE NAME	TITLE	LEVEL	EMPLOYER
Harris	Business and Administration	3	Maldstone and Tunbridge Wells NHS Trust
Martin	Business and Administration	3	Maldstone and Tunbridge Wells NHS Trust
Tolley	Business and Administration	3	Maldstone and Tunbridge Wells NHS Trust

THE WKIC GROUP			
APPRENTICE NAME	TITLE	LEVEL	EMPLOYER
Christopher Martin	Pharmacy Services Assistant	2	Medway Foundation NHS Trust

## COMMUNITY LEARNING AND SKILLS

### ALEXIA FARMER

Apprentice Administration Assistant – Customer Relations Assistant, Community Learning & Skills

At the time of my level 2 graduation, I was actually due to complete my L3 – which I successfully did. Since during my L2 I have had a permanent job with my employer and throughout my apprenticeship I upped my hours, responsibilities, training and roles. I am now a well-integrated, trusted, member of staff and well equipped to continue my career, wherever it may take me.

### BILLIE SEQUEIRA

I've now completed my first year of a 2 year HNC qualification in Electrical/Electronic Engineering with plans to begin a part time degree in Electrical Engineering afterwards.

At BAE Systems, I am in a Hardware Engineering role, monitoring parts and components for obsolescence, providing and creating solutions where necessary. This has given me opportunity to develop and expand my technical knowledge learnt during my apprenticeship as I delve into the electronic specifications of components in order to provide a project with a suitable solution.

### EMILY FLANNERY

Following completion of my A-Levels I felt it was important to give careful consideration to my future studies. I decided to follow the apprenticeship route because I liked the idea of being able to continue studying whilst being employed, giving me the additional valuable insight into a professional working environment. I therefore applied and became the Marketing Apprentice at ABM Training. Having never been in an office environment before at first it was very daunting. I had fantastic support from my mentor, tutor and colleagues who assisted me in developing personally and professionally. Completing my qualification alongside employment enhanced my day-to-day role and also opened new doors allowing me to enhance my skillset. A highlight of my apprenticeship was without doubt being invited to assist in the development of a new website for the company, which prior to my qualification I would never have dreamt of being able to do. From this experience I knew I wanted to continue my career in the marketing industry.

I am now studying Marketing Communications at Bournemouth University, which consolidates my skills with the research and studies within my degree. I am beyond grateful for the experience and support provided throughout my apprenticeship. In fact, I enjoy the work, and working for the company, so much, that I continue to do so on a part time basis, alongside studying for my degree and I feel very lucky that they complement each other perfectly.



### NICOLA EVERETT

KMFM

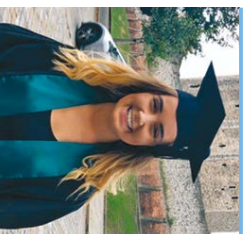
Nicola Everett grew up in Rochester and has been reading the news on commercial radio stations in the county for almost 20 years. Nicola's big break in radio came when she did work experience at Medway FM during her last year at Roehampton University.

On her final day, the editor asked if she would like to have a go at reading a bulletin - and she hasn't looked back since. After two years at Medway FM, Nicola joined the news team at Invicta FM where she enjoyed reporting on some of the biggest stories in the county and interviewing everyone from the Prime Minister to the Cheeky Girls!

Following a brief spell in PR and lecturing at Canterbury College, Nicola joined kmfm. She spent around six years reading the breakfast news before taking up a new position of managing the multimedia team, including overseeing the running of KentOnline.co.uk. Nicola can still be heard reading daytime bulletins on kmfm and regularly presents the Team Talk sports programme on KMTV. She also regularly hosts a number of awards events in the county including Pride in Medway, Swale Business Awards and Kent Teacher of the Year.

Nicola is delighted to be involved once again with the Apprentice Graduation Ceremony and to be host of the first such virtual event hosted from Rochester. She would like to congratulate all of the apprentices here today and wish them all the very best for the future.

[www.kmfm.co.uk](http://www.kmfm.co.uk)



## The Kent and Medway Apprentice Graduation Ceremony 2020 is only the second incarnation of this special event, which marks the incredible achievement of the county's apprentices during 2019-20.

The original intention as in 2019, was to hold a prestigious ceremony at Rochester Cathedral and celebrate the apprentice graduates with their friends, parents and employers, as well as with VIP guests including dignitaries, key business organisations and education and training provider leaders.

The Covid 19 pandemic almost resulted in the event, like so many others being cancelled for 2020. However, rather than cancel, the members of the Apprentice Graduation Ceremony Working Group and their representative organisations decided that marking apprentices' achievements and the support of their employers during such a challenging year was more important than ever.

Therefore, organising and delivering a virtual ceremony, which is the first of its kind in England, became the focus of the working group from April. Making it happen has involved an enormous amount of work behind the scenes. So whilst the virtual event may not present the same variables and stresses as a traditional event it has still been a leap in the dark with a whole new set of risks. Despite the risks the rewards certainly outweigh them.

Apprentice employers deserve a special thank you for their part in making it happen, by continuing to support our apprentices to achieve and progress their careers in such a challenging year. This year the contribution of employers gets extra recognition through their announcement in the event and addition to the graduands list pages as well as being included on a special page in this programme.

Finally recognition and thanks for the contributions made by our core sponsors, the working group members and supporting organisations for making it happen in 2020 are due notably:

Careers Education Company, CKX, Kent County Council, Medway Council, The Education People and the Leigh Academies Trust for their core sponsorship, developmental inputs, new sponsor leads and working group support.

KATO for providing the resource necessary to drive forward the practical coordination of the virtual event planning and liaison with the production company and for development of the event website.

Kent Further Education (KFE) for core sponsorship and supporting development of the virtual concept, logo design and publicity material and programme production.

FSB as primary sponsor and driver of the graduation concept and for the practical support and chairing of the steering meetings held throughout the year.

Wirebelt for its sponsorship and invaluable networking and influencing with key partners and employers.

ESFA for additional support and sponsorship.

The Kent & Medway Apprentice Graduation Working Group are: Alison Parnar – FSB; Wayne Wilson and Rebekah Shaxted – KATO; Mark Hill – KFE; David Knox – TEP; Louisa Festead – LAT; Munya Bayde – CEC; Michael Ratcliffe – CKX; Paul Winter – Wirebelt; Cathy Le Page and Daniel Ratcliffe, Medway Council.



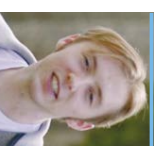
### CKX – PAULINE SMITH

As a member of the working group, CKX has engaged in the planning and development of the Apprenticeship Graduation. We understand, at CKX, the importance and benefits of apprenticeships to both the apprentice entering the work place and the employer recruiting and training staff.

CKX currently works with many apprentices within the Young Apprenticeship Ambassadors Network (YAAN) as part of the ASK programme engaging with schools across Kent and Medway, and more widely across the south of England. The role of ASK is to engage, inform and support schools with information for students, parents and school staff on the routes into all apprenticeships and the benefits of undertaking an apprenticeship and to highlight progressions after finishing GCSEs, A Levels and BTECs. The Apprenticeship Graduation 2020 is a fantastic way to celebrate the success of recent apprentices completing their apprenticeships and recognise the role employers have contributed. We would like to congratulate all the apprentices graduating today along with their employers and training providers.

### APPRENTICE – MARK JONES

"The reason I made the decision to support this event is because it is the perfect time for Apprentices and other people progressing within their careers to celebrate their achievements and be able to look back and see how far they have come over the previous one or two years."



### MEGGER (EVENT CO-SPONSOR) – HAYLEY KENNETT

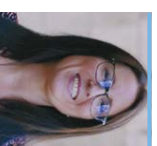
Megger has been a leader in electrical test and measurement globally for 130 years. From power generation to the power outlets in homes, Megger products cover almost every application within the Electrical Supply Industry. With our headquarters based in Dover, Kent we are part of a multinational company with manufacturing sites in various locations within Germany, USA, Sweden, UK and sales offices across the globe.

"Megger is proud to sponsor this year's Kent and Medway Apprenticeship Graduation Ceremony to celebrate the success of apprentices across the region. Apprenticeships are key to the success of our own talent management programme, ensuring we attract and retain the best talent in the engineering industry, developing the next generation of engineers and technicians, alongside, Manufacturing, Finance, Sales and HR. Apprenticeships also allows our existing staff to develop their knowledge and skills and gain nationally recognised qualifications."



### CATHERINE UPTON – BJF GROUP

As the HR Business Partner for BJF Group, part of my role is to help apprentices on their journey through the company by supporting them from the very start of their learning adventure. My team and I make sure apprentices feel welcome and fully assisted to carry out their work whilst studying. BJF whole-heartedly support everyone today and feel very proud to be part of the celebration.





# The Young Apprentice Ambassador Network



## What is the YAAN?

The Young Apprentice Ambassador Network (YAAN) is a community of inspiring, driven apprentices and former apprentices who have chosen to register as Young Apprentice Ambassadors in their local area. The YAAN gives today's apprentices the opportunity to connect with and motivate the apprentices of tomorrow.

## What do Young Apprentice Ambassadors do?

Young Apprentice Ambassadors use their own positive apprenticeship experience as a powerful tool for engaging and inspiring future apprentices. Ambassadors are invited to promote apprenticeships to young people, their teachers, parents and employers through a variety of exciting events. Ambassadors are encouraged to use social media to connect and influence different audiences, sharing the benefits of being an apprentice and a member of the YAAN. Ambassadors have also found themselves presenting at awards ceremonies, speaking at the House of Commons, have been the face of national TV apprenticeship campaigns, have featured in the Times Education Supplement, and been invited to other high profile events.

## YAAN Commitment

By signing up to the YAAN, you are agreeing to:

- ✓ Join your local/regional network
- ✓ Attend a training programme provided by the National Apprenticeship Service
- ✓ Use the YAAN portal and resources provided to keep up to date with apprenticeship news and the activities of the network
- ✓ Use the YAAN portal activity log to update the network on the activity/events you have supported
- ✓ Volunteer approx. 0.5 days per month/6 events per year and remain part of the network for a minimum of 12 months.

## How do I sign up?

We want energetic, engaged young people aged 18-26 to sign up to the YAAN.

Signing up is free and quick. You'll become part of your regional network, receive free training and helpful resources, and use your story to make a significant difference to the lives of future apprentices.

Visit: [www.amazingapprenticeships.com/yaan](http://www.amazingapprenticeships.com/yaan) to get started.



“As a YAAN member you have the opportunity to promote apprenticeships as a great career choice and inspire and influence young people with your own experiences.”

Ben Clarke,  
Chair of the South East YAAN

 **Apprenticeship**  
Ambassador Network  
South East





## Graduate Apprentice Sponsors



The Careers & Enterprise Company work to inspire and prepare young people for the fast changing world of work. The Kent & Medway Virtual Apprenticeship Graduation Ceremony allows people to see the large amount of opportunities within the world of apprenticeships.



As a member of the working group, CKK has engaged in the planning and development of the Apprenticeship Graduation. We understand at CKK, the importance and benefits of apprenticeships to both the apprentice entering the work place and the employer recruiting and training staff. The Apprenticeship Graduation 2020 is a fantastic way to celebrate the success of recent apprentices completing their apprenticeships and recognise the role employers have contributed. We would like to congratulate all the apprentices graduating today along with their employers and training providers.



The Education People are passionate about apprenticeships and wants to recognise the value apprenticeships bring to young person and showcase their achievements. It's also important to acknowledge the employers who are committed and support their apprentices in achieving their goals.



The Federation of Small Businesses (FSB) is a proud sponsor of the Kent and Medway Apprentice Graduation Ceremony

2020, Area Leader Deborah Turner says, "We know that for so many small businesses, apprenticeships are a great way to preserve important skills, transfer knowledge and keep key trades and professions alive and prospering. Recruiting an apprentice makes good business sense. It gives firms a way to find raw talent that can be shaped to the organisation and add value to the business. Without question, the future success of the apprenticeship continues to lie with the UK's smaller companies. We would like to congratulate each apprentice on their completion and wish them all the best in their careers."



As an organisation, KATO strives to support our providers alongside promoting apprentices and raising awareness and promoting the

unknown about apprenticeships. The Kent & Medway Apprentice Graduation Ceremony is an amazing opportunity to shine a light on the amazing work of employers, providers and the apprentices and show some of the amazing opportunities within the world of apprenticeships.



KFE colleges provide apprenticeships

to the whole county, from Level 2 to Higher Level across a wide range of industry sectors and subject areas, annually to over 2,500 young people and adults. The FE colleges engage with thousands of employers every year who know that Apprenticeships are a high quality and highly valued solution for businesses, and apprentices seeking the best way to develop their skills, careers and employability now more than ever.

As a leading education provider in Kent & Medway, Leigh Academies Trust grasped the opportunity to be on the steering group for the Kent & Medway



Apprentice Graduation Ceremony. It is vital that all education and employment pathways are clearly signposted, recognised and celebrated by both our young people and employers which is why we chose to get involved.

Medway Council place huge value on apprenticeships and we were delighted to support the first celebration which was held at Rochester Cathedral last year. We



Serving You

It is extremely important to continue to demonstrate the importance of apprenticeships, their importance to our economy and the hard work and resilience our apprentices have demonstrated throughout the year.

The Wire Belt Company has been recruiting apprentices since 1978 and have built our long-term employment strategy using this, the foremost method for work-based training.



We are delighted that for the first

time our successful employees are being acknowledged with a formal graduation ceremony. This accolade acknowledges the hard work and commitment to learning that are the essential elements to graduate as an apprentice. This is why the Wire Belt Company Ltd. is pleased to both sponsor and be an active member of the organising committee.



\* SEAN is an event co-sponsor - see page 14.



\* Megger is an event co-sponsor - see page 13.

## Graduate Apprentice Employers

Despite the impact of Covid 19 and a virtual format, the 2020 Apprentice Graduation has seen a record number of employers supporting graduate nominations. The organisations below are recognised as supporting their apprentices to success and for engaging with the National Apprenticeships Scheme.



As the UK's largest business support group, FSB is the voice of the UK's small businesses and the self-employed. Established over 40 years ago to help its members succeed in business, FSB is a non-profit making and non-party political organisation that's led by its members, for its members. As the UK's leading business campaigner, FSB is focused on delivering change which supports smaller businesses to grow and succeed.

FSB offers members a wide range of vital business services, including access to finance, business banking, legal advice and support along with a powerful voice in Government. Each year FSB also runs the UK's Celebrating Small Business Awards. More information is available at [www.fsb.org.uk](http://www.fsb.org.uk). You can follow us on Twitter @fsb\_policy and @FSBKent.



## Graduation Attire

As we all know COVID-19 has affected events across the globe, especially Graduations. Being an innovative organisation, Graduation Attire couldn't bear to think that the Class of 2020 were not going to experience the momentous occasion that is Graduation and so they created Graduations.LIVE, a new intuitive and content-driven celebration platform, allowing students to celebrate digitally and safely.

### What Unique Celebration Content Can I Create?

#### AR Class Photo

The Class Photo is the perfect way to bring you and all your classmates together to join in your celebrations. Graduations.LIVE allows students to replicate the Class Photo tradition online, utilising intuitive augmented reality software to add your mortarboard cap onto your photo before adding you to the group in front of a landmark building or location.

#### Digital Group Celebration

Another active tradition loved by all, the Digital Group Celebration allows students to create a 2 second celebration video which can then be added to their group video tile which is simply created in the platform and shared using a code. This branded celebration tile is then available to download instantly or directly share across Social Media platforms.

#### Digital Mosaic

You have already taken a great picture of yourself with a Graduation Cap (real or virtual) so the platform wants that to go down in history. On Graduations.LIVE, you will automatically be added into the Photo Mosaic which merges your graduation image into the history of the institute. Make your mark and download this perfect memory.

#### Gradclip Video

The Graduations.LIVE Gradclip is similar to Spotify's Wrapped in that it is designed to provide the perfect evaluation to your educational journey. From your favourite places around the area, to a reliable fact from the time you started your apprenticeship, this 60 second clip creates the perfect recap of your time in education with a short 30 second clip of yourself looking back on your time and thanking influential people who helped you succeed!

For more information about the platform and to book a FREE demonstration, go to [www.graduations.live](http://www.graduations.live)

## Save the Date

### Kent and Medway Apprentice Graduation 2021 – Do you know an apprentice due to graduate next year?

In 2021 we're planning to return to a full event format at one of Kent or Medway's prestigious cathedral locations. We're already planning around the now traditional early October date which is to be confirmed shortly.

We would love to celebrate the success of even more apprentices as there are over 9,000 apprentices in learning every year in the county! If you know an apprentice who will complete and achieve their apprenticeship between 1st September 2020 and 31st August 2021 that may like to be one of our graduates, ask them to register their initial interest or your own as an employer or training provider via the contact form at: <https://kandmappgrad.org/contact/>.



### Will your company be a sponsor?

We know the value of apprenticeships and how important this event is to all that take part and especially the graduates for whom it is an extra special moment confirming and recognising them similarly to university graduates. Our sponsor and partner network has been critical to making it happen. You can raise your company's profile and show your support for apprenticeships by becoming a sponsor of the 2021 ceremony. Please get in touch with Alison Parmar at FSB: [Alison.parmar@fsb.org.uk](mailto:Alison.parmar@fsb.org.uk)

## Press and Social Media

### Kent Messenger Media Group – Media Partner

KM Media Group is Kent's largest commercial media company. The company operates local newspapers including Medway and Kent Messenger titles, the kmfm radio network and a leading digital portfolio led by KentOnline and a joint venture, KMfTV in association with the University of Kent.



The company's output is trusted by over 1 million people each week and content is created in Kent and Medway for local audiences. The company runs events, supports many charities and causes such as volunteering through promotion and editorial content. The company also runs products including Kent Business, My Kent Family, Destination Kent and Kentjobs.

### Event Social Media

Share your photos on social media. Tag @KandMAppgrad on Twitter and use #KandMAppgrad on all social platforms. This programme and the recorded version of the event will be available at: [kandmappgrad.org](http://kandmappgrad.org)





Designed by EKC Group and KFE  
[www.kentfurthereducation.org](http://www.kentfurthereducation.org) on  
behalf of the Event Organisation.



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