Steve Willis
Training Centres

APPRENTICESHIPS

The start of your career!

Leading Specialists in Gas, Plumbing and Electrical Apprenticeships

Welcome to Your Apprenticeship

We specialise in Gas, Electrical and Plumbing apprenticeships, offering an exceptional opportunity to master a trade through our comprehensive apprenticeships programmes.

At Steve Willis Training Centres, we pride ourselves on providing a unique blend of hands-on training with an employer, combined with practical and classroom sessions at our well-equipped facilities in Burgess Hill, West Sussex and Portchester, Hampshire. Our programmes are designed to ensure you gain real-world experience while learning from the best in the industry.

With over 20 years of experience, our team of professional trainers brings a wealth of knowledge and expertise. Throughout your apprenticeship, the trainers will serve as your mentors, offering guidance and unwavering support as you develop your skills and knowledge.

This guide aims to provide you with valuable insights and tips to make the most out of your apprenticeship.

What is an Apprenticeship?

An apprenticeship is a structured training programme that combines 80% on-the-job training with your employer and 20% classroom-based training, which is a mix of practical and theory. It's a way for individuals to gain practical, hands-on experience while earning a wage. The apprentice, typically a beginner in the chosen field, works under the guidance of an experienced and qualified professional to learn the job.

Our goal at Steve Willis Training is to provide a comprehensive learning experience that equips individuals with the skills and knowledge needed for a successful career in their chosen field. Upon completion of an apprenticeship with us, you'll receive a nationally recognised qualification, which enhances your employability and validates your proficiency in your chosen field.

Find out more about the Apprenticeship Minimum Wage here!

Training the Future of Skilled Trades!

Learning to power the future with cutting edge electrical systems

Experience in safe and efficient gas installation and maintenance

Hands-on training in modern plumbing techniques and technologies

Incorporating sustainable practices and renewable energy solutions

Which Apprenticeships Do We Offer?

Apprenticeship	Gas	Plumbing*	Electrical
Qualification Level	Level 3	Level 3	Level 3
Duration	2.5 Years	3 Years +	3 Years +

***Burgess Hill Centre ONLY**

Electrical Apprenticeships

We caught up with our Electrical Curriculum Lead, Sam Ryan, to get his thoughts on our electrical apprenticeship programme:

"I believe the electrical apprenticeship we provide at Steve Willis Training is a fantastic opportunity for a route into the electrical industry.

We pride ourselves on delivering the highest quality training and providing our apprentices with the practical and theory skills they require to succeed in the industry and their future careers.

We have a fantastic team who strive to support and progress our learners before, throughout and after the duration of their apprenticeship. This gives our apprentices the best opportunity to succeed at Steve Willis Training and in the future."

Sam Ryan
Electrical Curriculum Lead

Electrical Apprenticeship Overview

Our Level 3 Electrical Apprenticeship runs for a minimum of three years. Around 70% of the training we provide at Steve Willis Training is theory-based. Your employer covers the majority of your practical training.

Year 1	**The first year of your apprenticeship will consist of a 50/50 split between the workshop and the classroom. You will cover health and safety, scientific principles, etc. You will be issued with your portfolio.**
Year 2	**In your second year, you will be in the classroom 100% of the time you are with us. You will continue to cover scientific principles and start to work on installation practices, procedures etc. Your portfolio is ongoing so you will continue to work on this throughout your apprenticeship.**
Year 3	**In your third year, you will go back to a 50/50 split between the workshop and the classroom. By the end of your third year, you should have completed your portfolio and theory units. Once these are completed, you will be put forward for your End Point Assessment (EPA).**
End Point Assessment (EPA)	**To qualify as an electrician, you will need to complete your AM2/S. On completion of the apprenticeship, you will be a fully qualified electrician.**

Find out more about this apprenticeship programme on the Institute for Apprenticeships' website!

Gas and Plumbing Apprenticeships

We caught up with our Gas Curriculum Lead, James Emmett, to get his thoughts on our gas and plumbing apprenticeship programmes:

"Embarking on a gas or plumbing apprenticeship here at Steve Willis Training opens doors to a rewarding and essential career, providing the skills needed to ensure safety and efficiency in homes and businesses. Safety is paramount in the gas and plumbing industry. Apprentices learn to handle potentially hazardous materials and systems with care, ensuring the well-being of their customers and themselves.

An apprenticeship in gas or plumbing offers hands-on learning experiences, allowing apprentices to apply their knowledge in real-world settings under the guidance of experienced professionals.

Completing a gas or plumbing apprenticeship at Steve Willis Training leads to valuable certification and accreditation, opening the door to advanced positions and even the possibility of a very prosperous career. Throughout the apprenticeship, our apprentices benefit from the mentorship of seasoned professionals, gaining insights and knowledge that go beyond textbooks and classroom learning.

The gas and plumbing industries are evolving with a focus on sustainability and innovation. Apprentices are at the forefront of learning about and implementing green technologies and practices. These apprenticeships are not just a job, but a way of making a meaningful difference. This pathway into green technologies is particularly relevant as the industry embraces renewable solutions. By mastering these renewables technologies, apprentices are equipped to contribute to a more sustainable future.

An apprenticeship in gas or plumbing is a journey of personal and professional growth, providing the foundation for a fulfilling career with continual learning and skill enhancement."

James Emmett
Gas Curriculum Lead

Gas Apprenticeship Overview

Our Level 3 Gas Apprenticeship runs for a minimum of two and a half years. Around 70% of the training we provide at Steve Willis Training is theory-based. Your employer covers most of your practical training.

Year 1	**The first year contains all aspects of health and safety, emergency first aid at work, scientific principles of gas engineering, building services engineering principles, core gas safety elements and industry legislation.**
Year 2	**The second year concentrates on gas engineering appliances (boilers, cookers, space heaters, unvented hot water and water regulations). The assessment cycle is also undertaken in year two which consists of the final written exams within the gas engineering apprenticeship. Portfolios are to be completed and compiled by the end of year two.**
Year 3	**Within the third year all apprentices will complete their industry recognised accreditation in the form of an ACS assessment for their chosen working pathway within the first three months of the academic year (September-December).**
End Point Assessment (EPA)	**The End Point Assessment (EPA) is completed from January of the third year within the final three months of the 30-month qualification. This is the end of all the previous training and assessment and, once successfully completed, you will have finished your gas apprenticeship. Upon completion of the apprenticeship, you will be fully qualified in domestic gas.**
Heat Pumps	**Upon completing the third year you will have the opportunity to enrol in a FREE Heat Pump course, focused on design, installation, and service.**

Find out more about this apprenticeship programme on the Institute for Apprenticeships' website!

Plumbing Apprenticeship Overview

Our Level 3 Plumbing Apprenticeship runs for a minimum of three years. Around 70% of the training we provide at Steve Willis Training is theory-based. Your employer covers most of your practical training.

Year 1	**The first year contains all aspects of health and safety, common plumbing processes/techniques, planning, supervision, cold water systems, hot water systems and central heating.**
Year 2	**In your second year, we will dive into your plumbing onsite assessment requirements that will support you with your portfolio in which you will cover the install, commission, service and maintenance of domestic plumbing and heating systems. In the classroom, you will focus on rainwater systems, sanitation systems, environmental technology systems, domestic fuel systems, electrical work, the control of plumbing and domestic heating systems.**
Year 3	***Renewables Route*- If you complete the plumbing apprenticeship on the renewables pathway, you will cover air source heat pumps, rainwater harvesting, greywater reuse systems, solar thermal hot water systems and environmental technologies onsite assessment requirements.** ***Gas Route*- If you complete the plumbing apprenticeship on the gas pathway, you will cover domestic core safety for natural gas, installation and maintenance of gas appliances, water heating and wet central heating appliances.**
End Point Assessment (EPA)	**The End Point Assessment (EPA) is completed on completion of your assignments and portfolio. This is the end of all the previous training and assessment and, if successful, you would complete your full plumbing apprenticeship in renewables or gas. On completion of the apprenticeship you will be fully qualified in plumbing and domestic heating, specialising in gas or renewables.**

Find out more about this apprenticeship programme on the Institute for Apprenticeships' website!

Meet Apprentice James

Who is your employer and what do they do?
I work for a company called Plumbing on Tap. We are part of the On Tap Group and we undertake all aspects of property maintenance from plumbing to electrical work, to general handyman tasks.

Why did you apply for an apprenticeship?
I applied for the apprenticeship because I feel like it's the best way to gain the necessary skills to become a gas engineer. Learning about my job from a book is all well and good, but without hands-on training in the real world, you won't be prepared for what the job will throw at you!

What has your experience with Steve Willis Training been like?
Steve Willis Training has been excellent-honestly can't fault it. My tutor is knowledgeable, friendly and able to make the less exciting aspects of the course interesting, and all the other staff have been excellent. I know I am in good hands, and I know they care about the quality of my training and overall success.

Meet Apprentice Alfie

Who is your employer and what do they do?
LJ Electrical Contractors Ltd. They do all aspects of electrical work.

What year are you in and what course are you on?
In my third year, Level 3 installation and maintenance electrician.

Why did you apply for an apprenticeship?
The typical college/university route didn't appeal to me.

What has your experience with Steve Willis Training been like?
All positive. The teachers are dedicated and have a really good approach to getting the best out of everyone.

What has been the best part of your apprenticeship?
Recently, it's being trusted more at work and being able to look at my work and be proud of it.

What new skills have you gained from your apprenticeship?
Prior to my apprenticeship I had no experience with anything to do with tools or the trade, so everything I have learned has been a new skill. Everything from dealing with customers, to all the practical skills I have picked up from my electrical training and tips from other trades on site.

Want to Come to Steve Willis Training - What's Next?

Step 1 **Contact Us!**	If you're interested in an apprenticeship, get in touch! • WhatsApp 07834 580 525 • Call 01444 870 860 / 02392 190 190 (option 2) • Email apprenticeships@stevewillis.com • Complete our enquiry form on our website
Step 2 **Application**	Once you have contacted us, you will be set up with an account on our apprenticeship management system, Aptem.
Step 3 **Initial Assessment**	On completion of your application form and initial assessments, we will give you a call to arrange the final stage of your application, a telephone interview! This is an informal telephone interview with our Apprenticeship Recruitment Team. We will ask you a few questions about your education and employment history and cover questions you might have about the course.
Step 4 **Employability support**	If you do not have an employer lined up to start the apprenticeship in September, Steve Willis Training can support you in your search for employment and offer: • Employability sessions • CV matching service • Monthly support calls Please note, we help as much as we can, but we cannot guarantee that we will find you an employer and suggest that you complete your own job search alongside the support we offer. We will give you some tips on where to look for employers and how to increase your chances of finding employment. If you do not have an employer before our courses start in September, you cannot start on-programme.
Step 5 **Offers**	Once you have secured employment, we will reach out to your employer to complete some compliance checks with them.
Step 6 **Start in class**	Finally, you will receive an induction pack before you start your course. This will include everything you need to know before your first day.

Do I Have to Pay for the Course?

No! There is no cost to the apprentice. Apprenticeship training is usually government funded, and the amount of funding available is dependant on your age and the size of your employer's company. In simple terms:

- 16-18 years old, small or medium employer - 100% government funded, no cost to your employer. Your employer will also receive an incentive payment of £1,000 for taking you on!
- 19-21 years old, small or medium employer - 100% government funded, no cost to your employer
- 22+ - 95% government funded, so your employer contributes 5% towards your training and assessment costs

Do you still have any unanswered questions?

Contact the Apprenticeship Team and we'll be happy to help.

WhatsApp us on 07834 580 525

Call us on 01444 870 860 or 02392 190 190 (Option 2)

Email us at apprenticeships@stevewillis.com

Complete our enquiry form on our website

SCAN ME

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