

Kirklees Kickstart – Guidance

The Kickstart Scheme was announced in July as part of the Chancellor's Plan for Jobs. The scheme aims to create thousands of high-quality six-month work placements for young people aged 16 to 24 who are claiming Universal Credit and are at risk of long term unemployment.

Under the scheme, the Government will cover 100 per cent of employment costs for 25 hours a week. This includes the employee's salary at the appropriate minimum wage for their age, as well as National Insurance and pension contributions. Further information can be found in the Government guidance provided in this pack.

Kirklees Council, working with local partners, are acting as an intermediary to allow Kirklees businesses and other organisations to pool their vacancies allowing them to access the scheme no matter how many opportunities they can offer rather than the 30 needed to apply for the scheme directly.

The placement must be an 'additional' job. This means that it can't be an existing vacancy or replacing furloughed or redundant staff. Don't get caught out by this. If you're unsure we can talk you through what's eligible.

Employers have a choice of provider in Kirklees. In addition to the Council scheme, partners including the Mid Yorkshire Chamber of Commerce and Industry and Federation of Small Businesses are also Kickstart Gateways; please see [here](#) for details.

Kirklees Career Boost

As part of a Kickstart placement young people must also be given employability support throughout their placement. This will allow them to develop new skills and help them move into sustained employment on completion of their placement. There is additional funding of £1500 to cover these costs

Kirklees Kickstart will deliver employability support on behalf of your organisation, meaning you can focus on organisation specific support. Young people will have access to the Kirklees Careers Boost programme, delivered by C&K Careers. This programme will ensure Kickstart participants receive high-quality employability support. It will help participants build on the experience and skills they are developing in their employment, boosting confidence and motivation, preparing them for further learning and work.

The cost of this support is £ 500 which is covered by the £1500 government grant. The remaining £1000 will be paid directly to your organisation so you can provide the in-work support and training required to help our young people with the transition into the world of employment.

To find out more about Kirklees Career Boost please see the information in your pack .

How do I apply?

Applying is simple and you'll have full support through each stage of the process

1. Call or email our team who can help you identify your placement, offer advice and answer any questions you may have. We can support you with writing your job description and ensuring your position hits the minimum criteria set by DWP.
2. Fill in your details on the application form, alongside our Health and Safety Questionnaire.
3. Once we have accepted your application we will let you know.
4. Once we have 30 applications we will submit an application to DWP on your behalf – keeping you informed as the application progresses.
5. When appropriate we will issue you with an SLA (Service Level Agreement – a simple form of contract) detailing our responsibilities.
6. Once your application is accepted and your placement goes live we will liaise with the local JCP (Job Centre Plus) on your behalf to help generate applications.
7. We can provide as much support as you require with shortlisting to help you find the ideal candidate. Either handling all your applications or arranging them to be sent directly to you.
8. Once you have found your preferred candidate and offered the placement we will enrol them on the Kirklees Career boost. This ensures all elements of the wraparound support required by DWP are met, leaving you to concentrate on the in work training and support.
9. Our Job Connector team will be on hand throughout the placement to offer support and resolve any issues you may have.
10. At the end of the 6 months we can support you to take on your person in a more permanent role or find your next Kickstart placement.

Please see our Frequently Asked Questions or contact us on the details below:

Call 01484 221 000 (ask for Kickstart)

Email kickstart@kirklees.gov.uk