

## Information Sheet for Equalising Access to Apprenticeships Research Study

### Information sheet for employers

#### What is the research and why is it taking place?

The National Foundation for Educational Research (NFER) is undertaking qualitative research into employers' recruitment of Level 2 and 3 apprenticeships. The research will take place between January and June 2022.

The research will explore employers' recent experiences of recruiting Level 2 and Level 3 apprentices as well as views on recruiting young people aged 16-19 years via this route. A key aim is to understand to what extent apprenticeships support the recruitment of young people and any barriers that need to be tackled.

We would very much like you to take part in the research; your perspectives will be invaluable in informing the ongoing evidence base on apprenticeships, particularly in the context of Level 2 and 3 opportunities and the recruitment of young people aged 16-19.

#### What activities will the research involve for my organisation?

The research will involve 20 virtual interviews with employers who have recently recruited for a Level 2 or 3 apprenticeship vacancy. The interviews will be semi-structured and will last around 30 minutes. The interviews will explore employers':

- recent experiences of recruiting for Level 2 and Level 3 apprenticeships
- views on the value of, and barriers to, recruiting 16-19 year old apprentices
- awareness and experiences of Traineeships and Kick Start as potential routes for young people to enter apprenticeships.

#### Data protection

NFER is the data controller for the research. Participation in all research activities is entirely voluntary. Research participants will be fully briefed on the purposes of the study and how the information they provide will be used before consenting to take part. Contact details will only be used for the purposes of completing the interviews. We operate fully in-line with data protection legislation (including GDPR) and we will not use the information we receive for anything other than this research.

At the end of the study, NFER will produce a publishable report. No individual or organisation will be identifiable from the report, unless permission has explicitly been given by the data subject. All of the findings from the research will only be shared in anonymised form.

### Who is NFER?

NFER is an independent research organisation with many years' experience of undertaking research and evaluation with schools, colleges, businesses and the public sector. For more information please visit: <http://www.nfer.ac.uk/>

### Where can I go for more information?

More details about the research including a link to this information sheet and an associated privacy notice can be found here: <https://www.nfer.ac.uk/for-schools/participate-in-research/equalising-access-to-apprenticeships/>

In addition, Suzanne Straw, the project director, and Jenna Julius, the project leader, are very happy to answer any questions. Please contact Suzanne on [s.straw@nfer.ac.uk](mailto:s.straw@nfer.ac.uk) or Jenna on [j.julius@nfer.ac.uk](mailto:j.julius@nfer.ac.uk)

**Thank you very much for your support with this research.**