



**Provider
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of Practice**

*Championing Collaboration
Across Provider Networks*

Foundation Apprenticeships Survey 2025





This piece of research has been brought to you by the Training Provider Networks - Community of Practice - a national programme of collaboration that brings together insight, comment, and the sharing of best practice across England's FE, Skills & Employability sector.

In Spring 2025 the Government announced the introduction of Foundation Apprenticeships from 1 August 2025. Aimed at young people aged between 16 -21 and for those up to the age of 25 who are care experienced, a prisoner/prison leaver, or have an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP) this new product, part of the apprenticeship family, aims to develop employability skills and behaviours to support the transition from education to work.

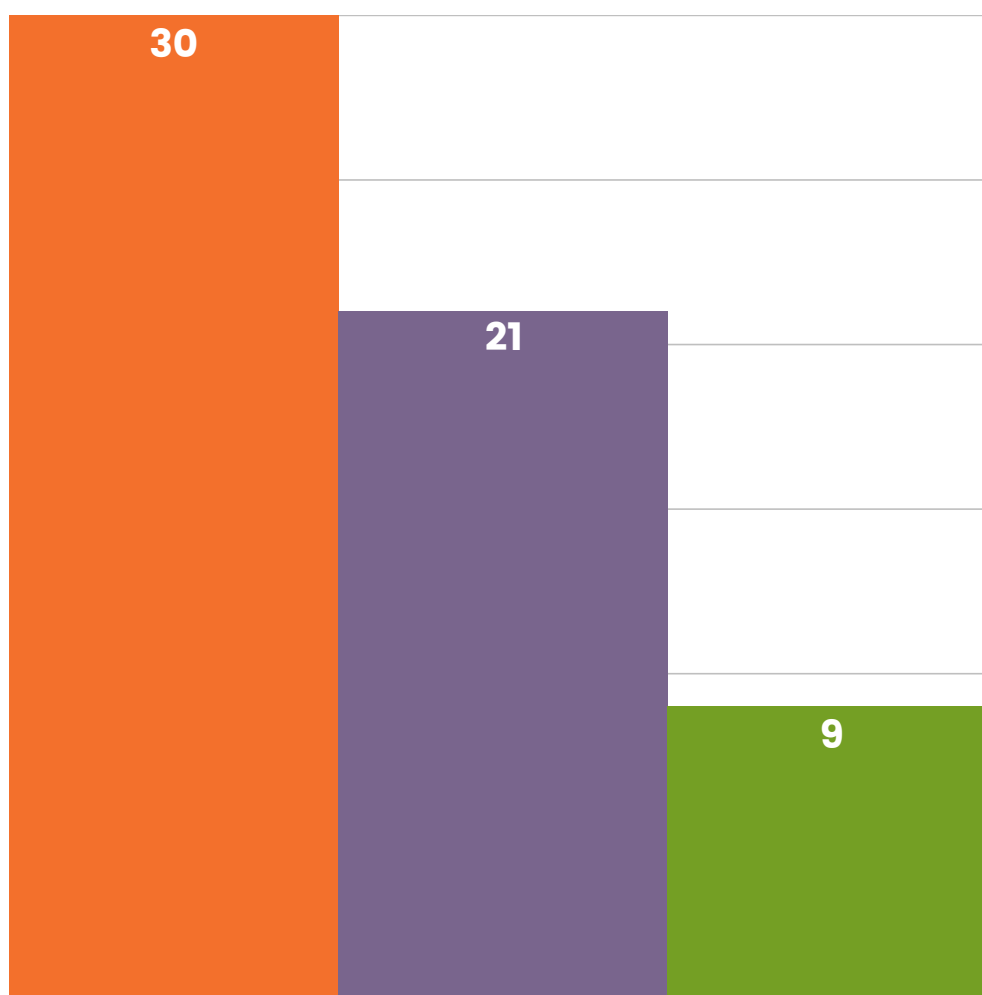
We were keen to hear from the provider base across the country as to their thoughts on Foundation Apprenticeships and whether they felt confident in being able to not only offer this new provision to learners but to effectively market it to employers.

Each regional lead surveyed the training providers in their area to build a national picture. The survey responses follow this introduction and provide an overview from a range of training providers, including FE Colleges and Independent Training Providers, on their thoughts on the introduction of Foundation Apprenticeships.



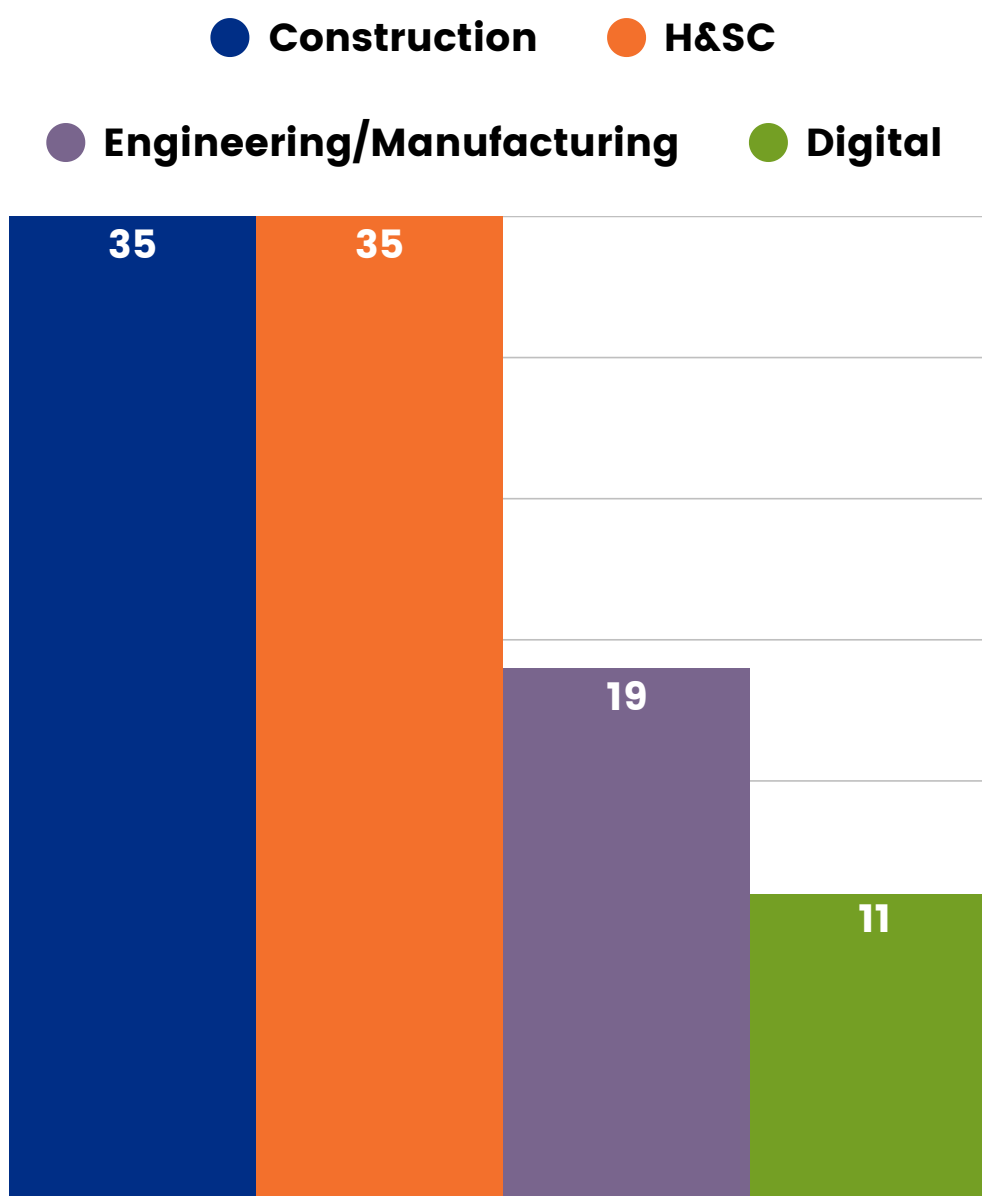
Is your organisation intending to deliver Foundation Apprenticeships from August/September 2025?

● Yes ● No ● Maybe



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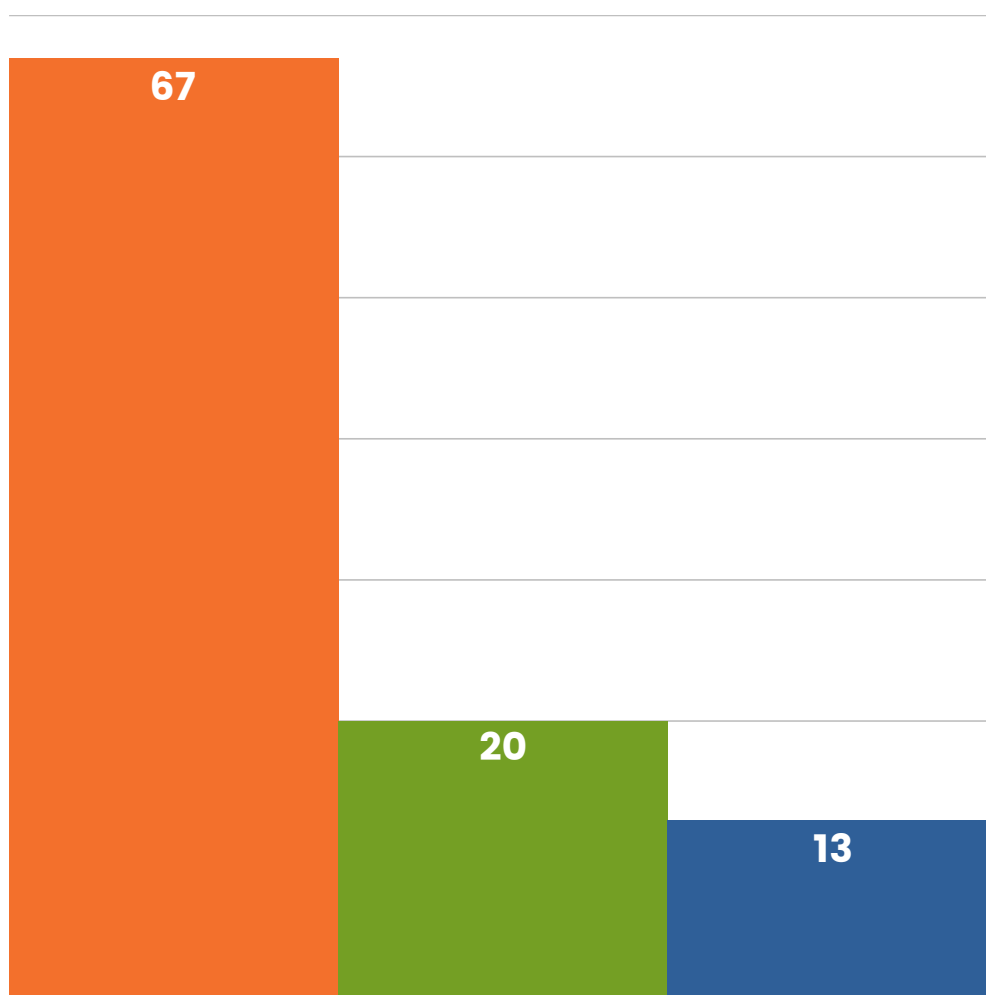
Which of the new Foundation Apprenticeship Standards do you intend to deliver?



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Do you feel confident in being able to generate employer interest & engagement, including take-up of Foundation Apprenticeships?

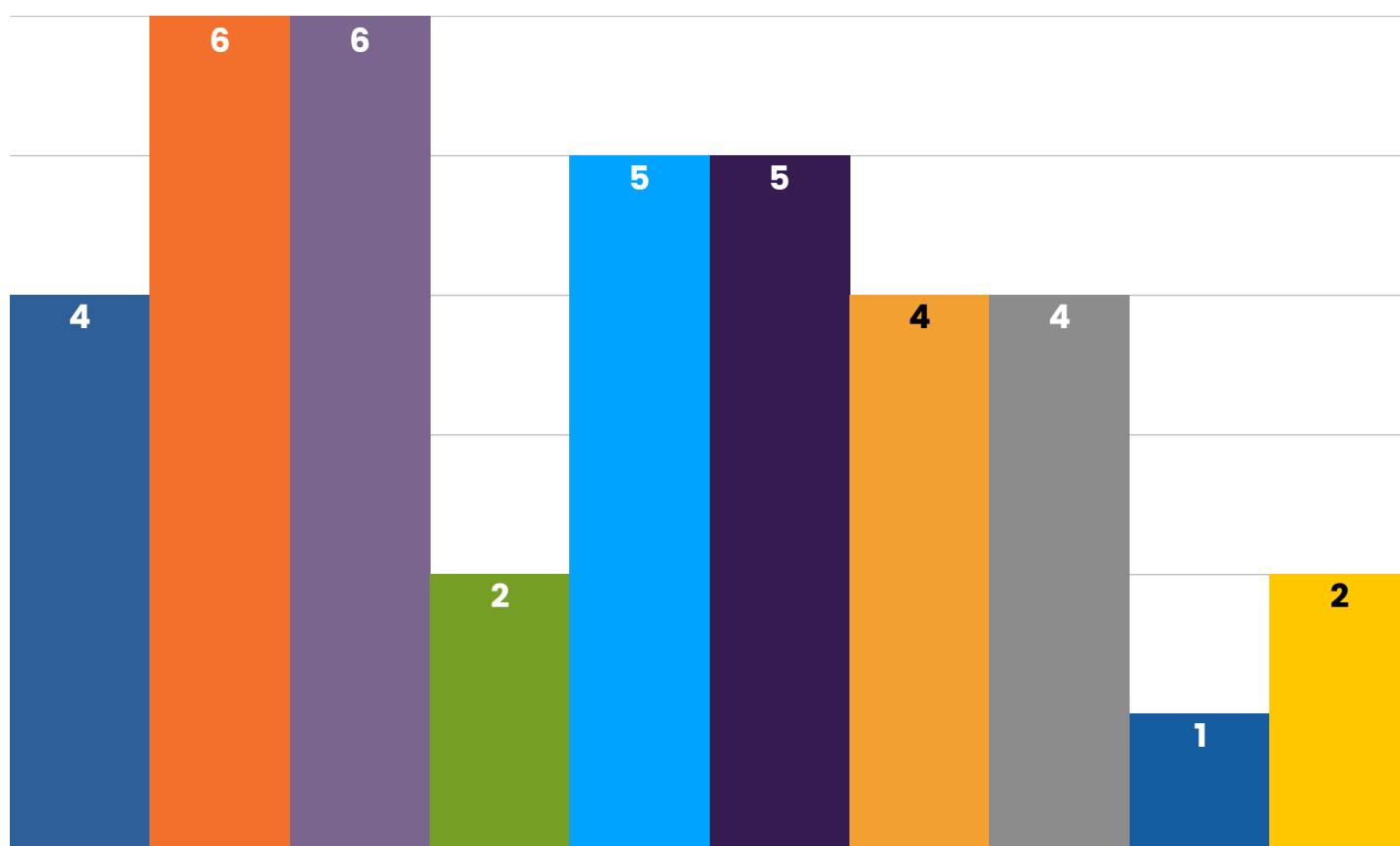
● Yes ● No ● Not Sure



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Examples of other standards you would like to see offered as a Foundation Apprenticeship:



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Further comments received from survey respondents:

- National comms / Media campaign is needed to raise the profile of the product - not enough is known about them amongst individuals and employers; this could affect take-up.
- More clarity and detail on the standards is required - currently quite vague and in the case of the engineering and manufacturing routes some of the KSBs are not suitable for the occupational pathways within the standard.
- More clarity and information for employers and for training providers, in particular to costs, funding, learning outcomes and assessment.
- Comprehensive reasoning, marketing and support for providers, linked to careers maps and routes for the apprentice journey.
- Financial support due to foundation apprentices likely to need ALS, English and Maths.
- Greater promotion of the incentives for employers & providers.
- National campaigns, Marketing toolkits, Financial incentives for providers, Best practice forums, Public sector organisations targeted with % of the workforce must be foundation apprentices.
- Not enough time to assess all information at the moment. Would need to understand overlap with existing Level 2 Care Worker Apprenticeship. Our current average age is 44 so unlikely to attract relevant age group in this area.

Summary

The majority of responses from training providers across the country reflect a generally positive attitude towards the new provision. Many indicated an intention to deliver Foundation Apprenticeships, albeit not immediately and most expressed confidence in engaging employers. Construction and Health & Social Care emerged as the most commonly supported sectors, with providers also expressing interest in expanding the offering to additional occupational areas such as Agriculture, Business, Hospitality and Hair & Beauty

It is also apparent the the provider sector feels it important that there is clear, consistent messaging and comms to a range of stakeholders including employers, parents and young people on the benefits and progression pathways of Foundation Apprenticeships.

The findings highlight areas where further support or development might be beneficial. Continued collaboration through the Community of Practice will be essential in ensuring the successful implementation and growth of Foundation Apprenticeships nationwide.



For more information about the Provider Networks Community of Practice and the work we do please get in touch!

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