

YHA England and Wales have an exciting opportunity to recruit six fully funded Apprentice Activity Team Members for 13 months, working at our Peak District hostels, Edale and Castleton. The apprenticeships will commence mid-September 2021. Whilst employed by YHA the successful candidates will be working towards a Level 3 Outdoor Activity Instructor qualification with Channel training.

Applications are open to all, however, YHA have been awarded the funding for these apprenticeship posts by Sport England in a bid to specifically improve underrepresented groups within the outdoor activity instructor sector. Together, YHA and Sport England will be particularly interested in applications from underrepresented female and minority ethnic communities who wish to pursue careers in outdoor activities.

We are YHA.

We believe in the power of travel and adventure. To connect people to each other, to nature, the outdoors, culture, and heritage.

YHA is a 90-year-old social enterprise. Today, the charity makes a difference to more than a million people each year through our 150 hostels, activity centres and leading work in volunteering, traineeships, apprenticeships, and youth employment.

We welcome all, yet specialise in creating opportunities for young people. We have a thriving schools and groups programme and work with partners to support access for young people and families with challenging lives.

What we're looking for:

In line with YHA strategy our top impact priority is to ensure that all means all, increasing the scale and breadth of our reach and ensuring that YHA is for everyone. To fully realise this ambition, we need a diverse workforce that is representative of the communities we serve.

At YHA we value lived experience as much as we do qualifications and work experience.

Lived experience might include your experience as a member of a minority group, the way that events in your life have shaped you, or your community experiences.

At YHA we want the widest possible set of lived experiences across our employees and volunteers. Our people share a common purpose: to improve the health, wellbeing, and life chances of all, but especially young people facing adversity and challenges.

To achieve this, we subscribe to a set of core values and behaviours: HEART. Helpful, Efficient, Authentic, Respectful and Team-Spirited. Our HEART values recognise the need for equality, diversity, and inclusion and to ensure we are reaching all, we capture this information at both the attraction and onboarding stages of employment.

You can find out more here: <https://jobs.yha.org.uk/life-at-yha/people-values-behaviours>

We are looking for energetic, enthusiastic individuals who are seeking experience and qualifications to gain a career in the outdoor industry and to gain valuable work experience with YHA whilst studying a Level 3 Outdoor Activity Instructor qualification.

Our work often involves groups of young people, therefore, any experience whether working, volunteering or being part of a team of young people would be desirable. Our Activity Team Member post is very varied and involves a lot of face-to-face customer contact, so previous customer experience would be an advantage but not essential.

What you'll be doing:

The role of the Apprentice Activity Team Member is to support the activity function within your hostel, maximising learning outcomes, whilst balancing the highest standards of safety. You'll deliver an excellent service to all guests and visitors, giving them a great experience of YHA.

This role is for a period of 13 months, during which time you will be working towards an Outdoor Activity Instructor Apprenticeship Qualification with Channel Training.

The role of the Apprentice Activity Team Member will blend outdoor activities and general day-to-day hostel duties including; housekeeping, reception and kitchen duties.

What you'll get in return:

Working for a charity such as YHA can be extremely rewarding, however, we also have a generous benefits package including 28 days holiday (pro rata).

You can find out more here: <https://jobs.yha.org.uk/life-at-yha/benefits-and-rewards/>

Development throughout the year will ensure you meet the criteria for the qualification with an end-point assessment and achieve a Level 3 Outdoor Instructor qualification by the end of the contract term.

During the apprenticeship programme you will have the opportunity to gain certification in: Outdoor First Aid, Lowland Walking Leader, Learning in the outdoors (bushcraft) and food hygiene.

You will also have the opportunity in the latter part of the programme to work towards your paddle sport instructor award. Membership to the BCU will be required at this time.

Entry Requirements and Recruitment Process:

Due to the apprenticeship programme that this role will follow, the minimum entry requirements are to hold or be working towards a level 2 in Maths and English (equivalent grade 4 or C) and be resident of the UK for the last 3 years.

This advert will close on 8th July 2021, but early applications are encouraged.

If you require any assistance to submit your application, please email: jobs@yha.org.uk

Applications will be shortlisted, and successful candidates will be invited to attend a Recruitment Activity Day on Saturday 17th July 2021 at YHA Edale, Nether Booth, Edale, Hope Valley S33 7ZH.

The recruitment event will start at 10am and finish around 5pm. During the day you will take part in low-level activities, meet with representatives from YHA, Sport England and Channel training the providers of the apprenticeship and have a short interview.

If for any reason you are unable to attend the event, this should not deter you from applying but you should notify us at the time of your application by emailing jobopportunities@yha.org.uk

Lunch will be provided. Candidates will be able to claim all travel costs and accommodation for the recruitment event can be arranged if you are shortlisted to attend the event.

Please Note: to become an employee at YHA you must produce the correct ID for Right to Work in the UK and all DBS checks. Successful applicants must undergo a DBS check before a start date can be confirmed and before you can reside in our staff accommodation (where applicable). We will ensure you receive your contract before your confirmed start date. YHA is committed to safeguarding and ensuring the welfare of children, young people and vulnerable adults and expects all employees and volunteers to share this commitment. The suitability of all prospective employees or volunteers will be assessed during our safer recruitment process in line with this commitment.