

WINTER NEWSLETTER



Winter Snapshot

Winter has been a busy and positive period at Rochdale Training, with activity taking place across learner programmes, employer engagement, staff development, community initiatives, and festive events. From skills training and progression outcomes to guest speakers and workplace visits, the past few months have showcased the range of work supporting learners and employers as we move into the new year. Thank you to everyone who has been part of the journey – we look forward to continuing this work together in 2026.



Learner Success: Antoinette Named Apprentice of the Year

We are proud to share that our learner Antoinette has been awarded Apprentice of the Year at the Rochdale Business Awards 2025. This achievement recognises Antoinette's hard work, dedication, and outstanding progress throughout her apprenticeship. Her commitment to learning and development has been exceptional, making this a well-deserved accolade.

We are delighted to celebrate Antoinette's success and look forward to seeing what she achieves next.

Interested in starting an apprenticeship or supporting learner success? Visit our website to explore the apprenticeship and training opportunities currently available:
<https://www.rochdaletraining.co.uk/>





Learner Awards 2026

The Learner Awards 2026 are back and will take place on Thursday 18 June 2026 at Rochdale Town Hall.

This prestigious event celebrates the achievements of our learners and the employers who support them, bringing together learners, employers, and partners for an evening of networking, food, and entertainment.

Nominations open on the 1st of February, recognising individuals and organisations who have gone the extra mile across education, training, and apprenticeships.

Award categories include:

- Level 2 Apprentice of the Year
- Level 3 Apprentice of the Year
- Level 4+ Apprentice of the Year
- Higher National Learner of the Year
- Adult Learner of the Year
- Rising Star Award
- Employer of the Year
- Trailblazer Award
- Community Impact Award

Employer Sponsorship Opportunities

There are still award categories available to sponsor at the Learner Awards 2026. Sponsoring an award is a great way to support learner achievement while raising your organisation's profile.

Contact: Mark Whittaker

 mwhittaker@rochdaletraining.co.uk

 01706 631 417





Welcoming Cllr Neil Emmott to Rochdale Training

Recently, we were pleased to welcome Neil Emmott to Rochdale Training. During his visit, he toured our engineering workshop and saw first-hand the skills, dedication, and hard work of our apprentices.

The visit provided a great opportunity to showcase the high-quality training taking place and the future engineers being developed here in Rochdale.



Thank You to Our Partners This Christmas

This Christmas, we shared a small gift to thank our partners for their continued support. We truly value the relationships we have built and appreciate the role our partners play in supporting learner success.



National Apprenticeship Week

National Apprenticeship Week 2026 is just around the corner, starting on 9th of February. Here at Rochdale Training, we are already preparing and planning lots of activities for during the week. Want to get involved? Come join us at our Open Evening on Thursday, the 12th of February from 3:30 - 7:00pm.

NATIONAL APPRENTICESHIP WEEK 2026 9-15 February

Can't make it? No problem, email us for a tour and meet the team.
marketing@rochdaletraining.co.uk

Mission Christmas

Thank you to everyone who supported the Mission Christmas appeal. Thanks to your generosity, we collected over 100 gifts, which were delivered to local families and gratefully received. Together, we've made a meaningful difference to children and families across Greater Manchester this Christmas.





From Apprenticeship to CEO: A Visit to Inspire



We were delighted to welcome Carl Ennis to Rochdale Training for a very special visit. Carl began his journey as an apprentice with Rochdale Training and has since gone on to become CEO of Siemens.

During his visit, Carl spoke with learners and staff, sharing his career journey and reflecting on the opportunities apprenticeships can create. His story is a powerful example of how starting an apprenticeship can lead to long-term career success with the right support, commitment, and ambition.

“ **My apprenticeship gave me the foundations I needed to build my career. The skills and experiences I gained early on played a huge part in where I am today** ”

As we look ahead to the new year, Carl's visit offered inspiration to learners considering their next steps and highlighted the life-changing potential of apprenticeships.



Want to start your apprenticeship journey? Visit our website to see what opportunities are available: <https://www.rochdaletraining.co.uk/apprenticeships>

Equality & Diversity in Action

A huge thank you to William David from QED Training for delivering an engaging Equality and Diversity session for our staff. The session was informative, interactive, and encouraged meaningful discussion, providing a valuable refresher on an important topic and reinforcing inclusive practice across the organisation.



We are currently looking for learner and staff representatives and would love for you to have a say! to get involved email Mark Whittaker on mwhittaker@rochdaletraining.co.uk

Inspiring Talk for Health & Social Care Learners

We were pleased to welcome Agatha from Agatha's Space CIC to speak with our Health & Social Care learners. She shared insights into her organisation's work and the opportunities available within the sector.



The session offered real inspiration and a valuable look at community-focused careers.

Study Programme Bake Off

Our Study Programme learners took part in the Great RTA Bake Off, combining festive fun with teamwork and creativity. The activity helped learners build confidence while developing practical and employability skills in a relaxed, engaging way.



Follow the link below to read more about our study programme:
<https://www.rochdaletraining.co.uk/future-apprenticeship-foundation>

Learner Christmas Party

Last week, we held a pizza party to mark the end of 2025 with our learners. It was a great opportunity to celebrate their hard work, reflect on the year, and finish the term on a positive note.

Thank you to everyone who took part and helped make it a relaxed and enjoyable end to the term.





Employer Corner

Health & Safety Training That Works

Keep your workplace safe and your staff confident with our bespoke Health & Safety courses. Whether it's First Aid, Fire Safety, Risk Assessment, or IOSH Managing Safely, we deliver practical, hands-on training that fits around your schedule.

Our courses are designed for real workplaces – giving teams the skills to spot hazards, prevent accidents and stay compliant.

To find out more or book your team onto a course, contact: joberts@rochdaletraining.co.uk or call 01706 631 417.



New Membership Available - Powering the Future

As a member of Rochdale Training, you'll not only add value to your organisation—you'll also enhance your business's social value profile.

Membership includes:

- Access to funding for workforce training and development
- A free recruitment service to help you find the right talent
- Discounts on a wide range of training courses
- The chance to use Rochdale Training as your own dedicated Training Support Service

Follow this link for full details:

<https://www.rochdaletraining.co.uk/membership>

Can You Offer a Work Placement?

We're on the lookout for local employers to support our Study Programme learners by offering short work placements. It's a great way to help young people gain valuable, hands-on experience – and for you, it's a chance to spot future talent early on! We are looking for Early Years/Childcare Employers and Customer Service/Business Admin Employers.



If you can help, contact:

careers@rochdaletraining.co.uk or call 01706 631 417.



Investing in the Future of Health & Social Care

Our Level 2 Health and Social Care Foundation Apprenticeship, starting February 2026, offers employers a practical way to grow their workforce while supporting new talent into the sector.

This eight-month programme, with training delivered three days per month at Rochdale Training, is designed to help employers facing recruitment challenges by developing enthusiastic young people with the skills and confidence needed for care roles. The programme supports a range of settings, including residential care, home care, day centres, and health support services.

Employers can benefit from up to 100% government-funded training and a recruitment incentive of up to £3,000, making it a cost-effective way to invest in future staff.



To find out more or get involved, contact Lisa Agnew on lagnew@rochdaletraining.co.uk to discuss how this programme could support your workforce.

St Cuthbert's RC High School: HLTA Apprenticeship Opportunity

St Cuthbert's RC High School is recruiting two Higher Level Teaching Assistant Apprentices.

This Level 5 Specialist Teaching Assistant apprenticeship is ideal for experienced Teaching Assistants ready to progress their career, supporting teaching and learning while working towards HLTA status.

To Apply either scan the QR Code below or contact Jason Wales on jwales@rochdaletraining.co.uk



St Cuthbert's RC High School: TA Apprenticeship Opportunity

St Cuthbert's RC High School is recruiting two Apprentice Teaching Assistants. This Level 3 Teaching Assistant apprenticeship is ideal for motivated individuals with school experience who are passionate about supporting young people to thrive, while gaining a recognised qualification.

To Apply either scan the QR Code below or contact Jason Wales on jwales@rochdaletraining.co.uk



Learner Success for Mandy

Mandy's success highlights the impact of Rochdale Training's Teaching Assistant Level 3 (TA3) programme. After a career change, Mandy developed the skills and confidence needed to support learners with additional needs in a school setting.

During the programme, she exceeded expectations, completed additional SEN-focused units, and achieved her Maths qualification after more than 40 years. Mandy now plays a key role in supporting pupils with complex needs and is planning to progress onto the Level 5 TA SEN Specialist pathway.

To discuss our education training offer, please contact Nathan Finn at nfinn@rochdaletraining.co.uk or call 07841 921 848.



"Mandy has shown outstanding commitment throughout her programme. Her determination, passion for supporting learners, and willingness to go above and beyond have made a real impact in the classroom."

Tutor, Rochdale Training

Major Apprenticeship Funding Benefits for Employers

Recent funding changes mean major savings for employers. Apprentices under 25 may now be fully funded, with no Employer National Insurance to pay, saving over £3,000 per apprentice.

With levy changes coming in 2026, now is the time to invest and make the most of available funding.

To discuss how these changes could benefit your organisation, contact Nathan Finn on 07841 921 848 or nfinn@rochdaletraining.co.uk.



Progression for Ellie

Ellie joined Lee Spring as a Level 3 Business Administration apprentice and has since progressed into an Engineering Operative apprenticeship, supporting technical documentation, engineering processes, and mentoring other apprentices.



Her journey highlights how apprenticeships can support progression across roles while delivering real value to employers.

Progression in Action

Health & Social Care Employment for Grace

Grace's journey is a powerful example of confidence growing through opportunity. After joining Rochdale Training via the Study Programme, Grace discovered her passion for Health & Social Care. With guidance from tutors and the Career Progression team, she built the skills and self-belief needed to step into the care sector – securing two job offers and progressing into her dream role at Supreme Childcare Group at just 19.

“Rochdale Training helped me believe in myself. I wouldn't be where I am today without their support.”

Want to turn your passion into a career? Explore our Study Programmes and care pathways.

<https://www.rochdaletraining.co.uk/future-apprenticeship-foundation>



New Engineering job for Paul



After completing the Level 2 Performing Engineering Operations Bootcamp, Paul progressed into full-time employment as a Fitter at Renold Gears. Before joining the boot camp, Paul hadn't considered engineering as a long-term career. The programme helped him build technical skills, confidence, and a clear understanding of the opportunities within the sector, reshaping his career goals and supporting his transition into skilled employment.

“The boot camp completely changed how I saw engineering. It made a huge difference to my confidence and showed me how many opportunities there are in the industry.”

Law Apprenticeship for Aayan

Aayan joined Rochdale Training's Future Apprenticeship Programme with a clear ambition to progress into a career in law. Through the programme, he developed confidence, professionalism, and a strong understanding of what employers expect in a legal environment.

As part of his learning, Aayan completed two work experience placements, including one with a local solicitors' firm. These experiences strengthened his employability skills and confirmed his career goals, leading to an offer of a Law apprenticeship once he completes his course.

"The programme helped me understand what employers expect and prepared me for the career I want."



Want to turn your passion into a career?
Explore our Study Programme:
<https://www.rochdaletraining.co.uk/future-apprenticeship-foundation>

Health & Social Care success for Tylar

Before joining Rochdale Training, Tylar had been unemployed and was unsure of her next steps. After completing a Health & Social Care course and receiving personalised employability support, her confidence grew quickly. Within one week, Tylar secured interviews – both leading directly to employment in the care sector.

"Rochdale Training didn't just help me get qualified – they helped me believe in myself and what I could achieve."



Looking to start a career in Health & Social Care? Find out how our courses can support your next step.
<https://www.rochdaletraining.co.uk/free-short-courses>



Proud Sponsors of the Greater Manchester Skills Awards

We're proud to be sponsoring the Greater Manchester Skills Awards, which celebrate outstanding talent and achievement across the FE and skills sector.

With nominations now open, the awards provide a fantastic opportunity for apprentices and employers to gain recognition for their hard work, commitment, and success. It's a chance to shine a spotlight on the individuals and organisations making a real impact across Greater Manchester.

Know an apprentice or employer deserving of recognition? Get your nomination in by the 13th of February and celebrate success across the sector: <https://gm-skillsawards.co.uk/>



2026 Employer Recruitment Support Get Seen. Get Talent. On Us.

We're offering employers a free recruitment campaign to help you attract the very best Apprentices in 2026.

Your free campaign includes:

- 1 On-site filming to showcase your team, facilities, and commitment
- 2 Promotion via social media, schools, colleges and our Employer News
- 3 Feature your story during National Apprenticeship Week and beyond

Interested? Get in touch:

 marketing@rochdaletraining.co.uk





Parents' & Carers' Corner

We know it's not just young people feeling the pressure—you feel it too. Helping your young person choose what's next after school can be a big deal, and let's be honest, it's not always straightforward. You might be their biggest motivator and the one cheering them on... even when you're not 100% sure how the system works yourself. That's totally normal—and that's exactly where we come in. Whether you're looking for advice, clarity, or just someone to talk it through

with, we're here to help you feel confident about what's next for them. Scan Below for More Information:

PARENTS & CARERS

GUIDANCE

APPRENTICESHIPS

MATHS

SUPPORT

STUDY PROGRAMME

ENGLISH



Contact us:

recruitment@rochdaletraining.co.uk
01706 631417

Career Support with Jade



Hi, I'm Jade, Career Progression Officer at Rochdale Training. I'm here to help learners find the right next step—whether that's an Apprenticeship, further training, or a new career path. If you need advice or support, feel free to get in touch!

jgooding@rochdaletraining.co.uk

01706 631417

Recruitment Support with Jacob



Hi, I'm Jacob, a Recruitment Advisor at Rochdale Training. I help connect learners with great opportunities and support employers in finding the right talent. If you have any questions or want to chat about your options, I'm here to help.

jevans@rochdaletraining.co.uk

01706 631417



Live Apprenticeships - Apply Now

We've got a wide range of live apprenticeship vacancies available now across different industries—from engineering and business admin to childcare, customer service and more.

You can view all current opportunities and apply directly on our website:

<https://www.rochdaletraining.co.uk/apprenticeships>

Got questions or need help applying? Drop us an email at recruitment@rochdaletraining.co.uk – we're here to help!



Job Opportunities at Rochdale Training

Rochdale Training currently have 3 Live Vacancies, see below:

- Machining Tutor
- Team Leader / Business Admin / Customer Service Tutor



New Brochure Now Available

We have a brand new brochure! If you would like a hard copy of the brochure please request one via recruitment@rochdaletraining.co.uk

To access the eBook, [Click Here:](#)

Open Evenings



🕒 Drop in 3:30pm - 7:00pm

Engineering Taster Days

Hands-on taster sessions to spark your future in engineering...



🕒 9:30am to 3:30pm

Interested? Contact Marketing@rochdaletraining.co.uk or call 01706 631 417 to book on!