



ULTRA ACCESS National Apprenticeship Week

Ultra Access's recommendation to the Scaffolding Industry.

Ultra Access proudly supports National Apprenticeship Week 2025 (10th Feb - 14th Feb) in Britain.

Apprentices = the future of their respective industries, be it Scaffolding, or others (Bricklaying, Roofing, etc) and a clear indication of how well an industry is doing could be ascertained by the number of active apprenticeships within said industry, or the plans in place to encourage youth to become part of the industry.

Like many industries within the UK construction sector, scaffolding has (not only a current labour shortage, but) a shortage of youngsters willing to become scaffolders.

We live in a different time now, and young people have a different outlook on work (rightly or wrongly), so adjustments to scaffolding in its entirety should be made to make it a reasonable and effective career choice.

Evolve or die, is the simplistic way to put it.
Scaffolding is NO DIFFERENT to any other industry.

There are however some scaffolding contractors who do have some kind of apprenticeship scheme in place, which is great for the industry.
These companies should be celebrated for their forward thinking and commitment.

But these few, usually long established companies cannot be expected to do all the heavy lifting themselves.

More efforts need to be made as a combined industry to engage youth - at school leaver age, using all social media and technological advantages at our disposal, namely (and mainly) what media platforms the kids are "in to" nowadays - TikTok, Snapchat and also Instagram.

Sell the industry - market and promote, make scaffolding glamorous, make it an exciting career prospect, make it a reasonable way to earn a living.
Whilst changing it, making it easier to do, to make it worth in the eyes of the new generation.

IMHO, the scaffolding industry "new blood" numbers coming into the game that should be aimed for;

- 80% youth - straight from school.
- 20% adults - via career transition (moving into scaffolding ancillary services, usually).

The 20% adults could bring valuable experiences and skills that might not be widely available within our industry, like Engineers and Safety Experts.

80% youth is still a big number to aim for.

Let's aim for it, collectively as an industry - even half of that 80% would amount to thousands of apprentice scaffolders.

ULTRA ACCESS
Scaffold Technical Support

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