What pay and benefits will I receive?

You will receive the apprentice pay rate for the first year of your employment and then receive the national minimum wage (dependent on age) for the remainder of your apprenticeship.

As an employee you are able to join our benefits scheme which will enable you to obtain discounts from hundreds of retailers including high street stores, supermarkets, travel companies and many more; earn cashback when you buy online or buy discounted reloadable cards to spend in-store.

You will be eligible to register for a student card, which can be used, in addition to our benefits scheme.

We have various initiatives to encourage and support the wellbeing of our employees, including:

- The Cycle to Work scheme, where you can purchase a bike up to the value of £1000.
- Discounted gym membership at all Abbeycroft Leisure centres.

You will have 24 days holiday per year plus eight public holidays.

You will be eligible to join the Local Government Pension Scheme (LGPS), where contributions vary according to salary. The LGPS is a statutory, funded pension scheme of which its benefits are defined and set out in law.

What sort of supervision and support will I get?

When you initially start, you will be assigned a buddy who is someone who will support and guide you in your initial few weeks whilst you find your feet. You will have regular one-to-one meetings with your manager. You will work within a supportive team, who have a range of experience to guide and support you.

You will be offered a workplace mentor who will be your contact to discuss issues such as; your future aspirations and career advancement, any wellbeing or work based issues that arise in the course of your apprenticeship.

To support your personal development you will have access to the full corporate training offer. Advice and guidance from the learning and development team is available to identify the training required to meet your needs.

You will spend at least 20% paid on the job study time, which can be either be; attending college, university and external or workplace training sessions. You might attend one day per week ('day release'), in blocks of a week or more ('block release'), or study online. Some use a combination know as blended learning.

You will be required to complete assignments and assessments during and at the end of your apprenticeship. These are designed to test both academic learning and occupational competence developed through on the job training.

We have a programme towards the end of apprenticeships to work closely in supporting individuals in securing employment with West Suffolk Council, giving you every opportunity to progress in all areas of the council. We also help to seek work opportunities with other partnership organisations where possible.