ARCHITECTURE APPRENTICESHIPS

A collaborative research and development exchange programme (linking Academia and Industry) from one of the leading architecture schools in the UK.

STATEMENT OF CONFIDENTIALITY

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Introduction from Head of School

The School of Architecture (part of the Trailblazer process) has been instrumental in driving the development of an alternative route to the traditional Part 1, 2 and 3 qualification.

The Apprenticeship Programme enables architectural training to be more inclusive, more affordable and importantly more diverse. The programme provides a unique platform for research and development exchange with industry partners. Enabling the incubation of innovation and education so that the next generation of Architects are prepared for our rapidly changing industry.

The School is a vibrant community of staff and students located in the historical and culturally diverse city of Oxford. Our students receive many prestigious awards, such as the RIBA Sergent Prize Drawing. Our staff are leading world-class researchers both here in the UK and across the globe in a variety of areas including vernacular architecture, live projects, sustainability, low carbon buildings and development and emergency practice. Our courses are accredited by RIBA and ARB, the part 1 and 2 courses are also accredited by LAM (Malaysian board of Architects). The School also has associated affiliation with ACSA (Association of Collegiate Schools of Architecture).

We are excited to be at the leading edge in the development of this programme and look forward to welcoming you to the School of Architecture, Oxford Brookes University.

Matt Gaskin
Head of the School of Architecture
The architect degree apprenticeships offer employers an opportunity to support talented employees who have completed Part 1 training to become registered architects. The programme integrates academic learning and preparation for professional qualification with work based practice.

The architect apprenticeship standard is mapped against the ARB and RIBA shared Part 2 and Part 3 criteria. This apprenticeship enables apprentices to apply to become a registered and chartered architect upon successful completion if they so wish.

The cost of apprenticeship training and assessment can typically be met, in full or in part, through the apprenticeship levy or government funding for non-levy payers.

Collaborative research and development - apprentices will join a studio formed of academic experts and students engaging in research in design, technology and management practice and law, enabling them to develop the skills required by the next generation of architects.

- Apprentices gain MArchD Part 2 and Part 3 qualification at no cost while in paid employment.
- Apprentices qualify through an accelerated learning programme maintaining an engagement with architectural practice while also benefiting from an academically rigorous context.
Programme Details

**Mode**
Blended study 48 weeks of the year.

**Duration**
4 years

**End point assessment**
(RIBA part 3 examination- integrated)

The school is currently developing degree apprenticeship in partnership with RIBA and leading employers including Fosters & Partners, Hawkins\Brown and Scott Brownrigg, to name a few.

We are offering level 7 (Architect) and the programme will follow the existing structure of our successful MArchD (part 2 ARB, RIBA accredited) and Part 3 examination programmes.

The degree apprenticeship will allow architecture firms to apply for levy funding to meet the costs of sponsoring graduate trainees to qualify.

It is a requirement of apprenticeship funding that apprentices are typically employed on a full time basis and can access 20% off the job training. The likely working patterns of trainees and the duration of the programme means a blended option is likely to be the best fit for trainees and their employers.

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1. **ENGAGE**
Engage and strengthen links across industry and academia. Developing global partnerships to tackle real world problems.

2. **ENABLE**
Collaborative R&D and knowledge exchange for wider impact and contribution via inclusive and flexible programme delivery.

3. **ENHANCE**
Innovative teaching and learning environments through advanced research methodologies supporting industry projects.
Programme **Timeline**

The apprenticeships fast track to qualification

**On board, on programme**

**Entry Assessment**

The industry partner and Brookes University will determine if candidate is suitable to proceed on the Apprenticeships Programme. Assessment will include portfolio review and interview.

**YEAR 1**

**Simulation Research and Development**

Year 1 has a very strong emphasis on acquiring in-depth skills, knowledge and behavioural attitudes towards research and development methodologies related to architecture. Three interrelated modules of Applied Design in Architecture 1, Research Methods and Management, Practice and Law 1 will provide a solid grounding for Year 2 and 3.

The R&D clusters focuses on cutting edge topics within a global agenda. Simulated design projects challenge the apprentices to apply R&D methodologies that combine learning and research. Through the use of critical thinking methodologies, apprentices will be encouraged to challenge the fundamental basis of design and generate individual design and research agendas.

**YEAR 2**

**Application Research and Design**

Year 2 and 3 offer apprentices the opportunity to synthesise a broad range of complex cultural, aesthetic, research and technical factors, as well as specialist knowledge gained through research undertaken in Year 1, and develop a major design project and portfolio. The three modules integrates research methods and include Applied Design in Architecture 2, Advanced Technology for Design and Management, Practice and Law 2 modules.

**YEAR 3**

**MArchD (Part 2)**

Application Research and Design
Situated within a design studio, apprentices will be guided to develop their own design and research programme; agenda and design methods; and creatively generate a comprehensive major design project. The design studio is taught by some of the leading designers and tutors in the country and consequently a high levels of creative and intellectual endeavour, as well as high levels of productivity is required. Their aim is to raise design thinking, skills and production to the highest possible standard.

Part 3 Examination in Practice and Management

The Part 3 Examination in Practice and Management programme leads to apprentices qualifying as a registered architect. It is the final stage of an architect’s education. The Part 3 programme leads to the admission to the UK Register of Architects. Candidates who successfully pass the Part 3 examination are entitled to register as an architect in the UK (ARB Registration) and to apply for worldwide corporate membership of the Royal Institute of British Architects (RIBA). This final part of the programme is delivered through intensive sessions throughout the year.
ANNUAL DELIVERY

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CORE MODULES RUNNING ALL YEAR

- DESIGN
- RESEARCH METHODS
- TECHNOLOGY
- MANAGEMENT PRACTICE AND LAW

INTEGRATED CURRICULUM

Design
Research Methods
Technology
Management Practice and Law
There are three intensive blocks; winter, spring and summer, set throughout the academic year. This allows apprentices and practices to plan apprentices’ availability. The intensive sessions will be located in either Oxford or London.

Apprentices will have 20% contact time, this mirrors the MArchD Part 2 and Part 3 programmes.

Each Intensive will include simulated projects that require the apprentices to perform a series of measurable tasks set against an Assessment criteria (skills, knowledge, behaviour). Upon completion of the simulated project the apprentices will present to a panel of examiners who will mark and offer feedback to the apprentice.

Outside of the intensive sessions apprentices will have access to an online platform which will provide material such as lectures, literature, tests and collaborative forums offering a peer-to-peer learning environment, and the ability to communicate between apprentice, employer mentor and academic staff. Apprentices will be required to respond to tests directly on the platform allowing for continued assessment and progress analysis offering clear visibility into the performance of each apprentice at key junctures through the course.

The programme’s focus is on assessment of work-based learning. Using Brookes experience in teaching leading Architecture programmes and utilising our collaborative industry partners knowledge and systems to ensure that the apprentice and their employer receives the required support to enable successful completion of the programme. The RIBA Professional Experience Development Record (PEDR) system including additional criteria will provide each apprentice a criteria that they must complete. The enhanced PEDR+ will be used for assessment of work-based learning; providing apprentice development throughout the course and indicating to the employer mentor strengths and weaknesses of apprentice performance.

The University and the employer mentor will also be responsible for preparing apprentices for the integrated end point assessment.
Industry Partnering

How we Engage

The apprenticeship scheme enables industry partners:

- Collaborative research and development - apprentices trained in research methods so to provide industry partners with cutting edge expertise with direct impact
- Industry talent retention (maintain Part 1 staff)
- Industry partners are offered continued recruitment visibility (future generations)
- Industry partners gain return on investment (levy payment)

Employer agreement and commitment statement: Prior to the start of the apprenticeship employers will be required to agree to both a commitment statement and employer agreement which will confirm arrangements for workplace learning, quality assurance visits and mentoring requirements. It will also confirm the commitment the employer must make to off the job training.

Eligibility and suitability assessment: Before the apprenticeship commences an assessment of the suitability of the apprenticeship and the eligibility of company and the apprentice to undertake the apprenticeship will take place. This process will involve checking the suitability of the company and the apprentice against funding and quality requirements and ensuring the proposed job role will allow the apprentice to meet the degree and apprenticeship standard learning outcomes.

On programme monitoring: Additional programme management hours have been built into the programme for the monitoring of workplace activity, apprentice progress and engagement with the employer. Employer visits to monitor the quality of placement activity will be delivered as part of these hours.

Learning and teaching strategy: Continuous Assessment strategy; Progress in the work place will be assessed on a continuous basis through the development of a work based portfolio and the PEDR+ (monitored by employer mentor and academic staff). The portfolio will indicate readiness for the end point assessment and progress in the work place. The degree has been mapped to the apprenticeship standard. There is key emphasis on applying theory to practice (for example completion of a level 7 work based project rather than a dissertation).

Benchmarked assessment; An online platform will provide tests throughout the course measuring the understanding and knowledge of the apprentice in relation to online course material (lecture, literature). At the end of each intensive the apprentice will be required to present in a viva format to a panel of academic staff who will access performance and suitability to proceed to next stage.

End point assessment and externality: Additional taught hours have been built into the programme to prepare apprentices for end point assessment. The end point assessment will take form of a Simulated project over a defined period. The end point assessor will ultimately confirm that standards, including work based learning requirements have been met. The programme will also be subject to external examiner scrutiny and the annual review process.

Key Industry Partnerships

An employer agreement and commitment statement will be set up for employers. This will include details of required access to employer premises and minimum requirements for learning and teaching facilities. The agreement will also detail the financial agreement which covers tuition costs.
For more information about Oxford Brookes Apprenticeships, fees and funding visit:
www.brookes.ac.uk/apprenticeships

Oxford Brookes promotes equality of opportunity for all who study, work and visit here. For more details please visit www.brookes.ac.uk/services/hr/eod or phone +44 (0) 1865 485929.

To obtain a large-print copy of (or sections of) this publication or to enquire about other formats please contact +44 (0) 1865 484848 or email query@brookes.ac.uk

All information is correct at the time of going to press. Please refer to the University’s website for the most up-to-date details.