

# **BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR** Level 3

The Business Administrator is expected to meet their responsibilities efficiently and with integrity, whilst also showing a positive attitude. The role involves demonstrating strong communication skills (both written and verbal) and adopting a proactive approach to developing skills.

The Business Administrator is also expected to show initiative, manage priorities and their own time, capably problem-solve and make decisions. They will have the potential to participate in people management responsibilities through mentoring or coaching others.

This 13 to 18-month Apprenticeship is designed to support Business Administrators' development of key skills and behaviours to support their own progression towards management responsibilities. It offers a comprehensive development programme supported by high-quality external resources and coaching. This will enable individuals to develop a rounded knowledge of Business Administration at an advanced level.

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Supported by National Apprenticeship Service



# BUSINESS ADMINISTRATORS MUST KNOW AND UNDERSTAND

- **The organisation:** Understands organisational purpose, activities, aims, values, vision for the future, resources and the way that the political/economic environment affects the organisation.
- Value of their skills: Knows organisational structure and demonstrates understanding of how their work benefits the organisation. Knows how they fit within their team and recognises how their skills can help them to progress their career.
- **Stakeholders:** Has a practical knowledge of managing stakeholders and their differing relationships to an organisation. This includes internal and external customers, clients and/or suppliers. Liaises with internal/external customers, suppliers or stakeholders from inside or outside the UK. Engages and fosters relationships with suppliers and partner organisations.
- **Relevant regulation:** Understands laws and regulations that apply to their role including data protection, health & safety, compliance etc. Supports the company in applying the regulations.
- **Policies:** Understands the organisation's internal policies and key business policies relating to sector.
- **Business fundamentals:** Understands the applicability of business principles such as managing change, business finances and project management.
- **Processes:** Understands the organisation's processes, e.g. making payments or processing customer data. Is able to review processes autonomously and make suggestions for improvements. Applying a solutions-based approach to improve business processes and helping define procedures. Understands how to administer billing, process invoices and purchase orders.
- External environment factors: Understands relevant external factors e.g. market forces, policy & regulatory changes, supply chain etc. and the wider business impact). Where necessary understands the international/global market in which the employing organisation is placed.

# BUSINESS ADMINISTRATORS DEMONSTRATE THE FOLLOWING SKILLS, AND ARE ABLE TO:

- IT: Skilled in the use of multiple IT packages and systems relevant to the organisation in order to: write letters or emails, create proposals, perform financial processes, record and analyse data. Examples include MS Office or equivalent packages. Able to choose the most appropriate IT solution to suit the business problem. Able to update and review databases, record information and produce data analysis where required.
- **Record and document production:** Produces accurate records and documents including: emails, letters, files, payments, reports and proposals. Makes recommendations for improvements and present solutions to management. Drafts correspondence, writes reports and able to review others' work. Maintains records and files, handles

confidential information in compliance with the organisation's procedures. Coaches others in the processes required to complete these tasks.

- **Decision making:** Exercises proactivity and good judgement. Makes effective decisions based on sound reasoning and is able to deal with challenges in a mature way. Seeks advice of more experienced team members when appropriate.
- Interpersonal skills: Builds and maintains positive relationships within their own team and across the organisation. Demonstrates ability to influence and challenge appropriately. Becomes a role model to peers and team members, developing coaching skills as they gain area knowledge.
- **Communications:** Demonstrates good communication skills, whether face-to-face, on the telephone, in writing or on digital platforms. Uses the most appropriate channels to communicate effectively. Demonstrates agility and confidence in communications, carrying authority appropriately. Understands and applies social media solutions appropriately. Answers questions from inside and outside of the organisation, representing the organisation or department.
- Guality: Completes tasks to a high standard. Demonstrates the necessary level of expertise required to complete tasks and applies themself to continuously improve their work. Is able to review processes autonomously and make suggestions for improvements. Shares administrative best-practice across the organisation e.g. coaches others to perform tasks correctly. Applies problem-solving skills to resolve challenging or complex complaints and is a key point of contact for addressing issues.
- Planning and organisation: Takes responsibility for initiating and completing tasks, manages priorities and time in order to successfully meet deadlines. Positively manages the expectations of colleagues at all levels and sets a positive example for others in the workplace. Makes suggestions for improvements to working practice, showing understanding of implications beyond the immediate environment (e.g. impact on clients, suppliers, other parts of the organisation). Manages resources e.g. equipment or facilities. Organises meetings and events, takes minutes during meetings and creates action logs as appropriate. Takes responsibility for logistics e.g. travel and accommodation.
- **Project management:** Uses relevant project management principles and tools to scope, plan, monitor and report. Plans required resources to successfully deliver projects. Undertakes and leads projects as and when required.

#### DURATION

Typical duration is 15 months for new entrants.

### ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

Employers will set their own criteria, but typically an entrant to this Apprenticeship will already have achieved a minimum of Level 2 in English and Maths.

# **ENGLISH AND MATHS**

During each session with their Tutor Apprentices without level 2 English and Maths will work towards achieving this. Level 2 English and Maths is required prior to taking the end-point assessment for this Apprenticeship.

#### **FUNCTIONAL SKILLS (FS)**

These will be completed taking in to account prior attainment and in conjunction with the initial assessments and diagnostics achieved through SkillsBuilder. Tutors will identify suitable opportunities to embed Functional Skills (FS) throughout the duration of the programme. Additional support should be arranged where a need or requirement is identified.

### PASS REQUIREMENTS

This is an Apprenticeship Framework that will be continuously assessed throughout the duration of the programme.

# MANDATORY / OPTIONAL

Students on the Business Administrator Apprenticeship may also complete the optional Level 3 Diploma in Business Administration. Completion of the optional qualification should be agreed prior to sign up on to the Apprenticeship programme.

#### **END-POINT ASSESSMENT (EPA)**

To achieve final certification, the Apprentice must have an appropriate place, with internet access, to undertake the End-Point Assessment (EPA).

The EPA consists of three distinct components:

- a written knowledge test answered through a combination of multiple choice questions and extended answer questions (20%)
- a workplace project and presentation (40%)
- a professional dialogue and interview, which is undertaken after all other EPA components have been successfully completed (40%)

A minimum of a 'pass' in each component is required.

A pass in the EPA will demonstrate that the Apprentice can apply the knowledge, skills and behaviours required by the standard. Apprentices achieving a distinction will be demonstrating performance above the requirements of the standard.

#### **MILESTONE MEETINGS**

Qube will ensure quarterly milestone meetings are held with the employer and Apprentice to check progress against the standard and for everyone to give feedback.

The milestone meetings could take the form of an interview or professional conversation to help develop the apprentice's communication and employability skills.

#### **GRADE BOUNDARIES**

Each part of the EPA has a pass mark of 60% and must be passed in order to pass the overall Apprenticeship. The overall pass mark is 60% and a distinction can be awarded for higher levels of attainment.

Assessment	Distinction Criteria Required
Knowledge Test	80%
Workplace Project	80%
Professional Discussion	80%

#### **EXPECTATIONS**

#### Student

- Preparation and planning
- Mandatory attendance for sessions
- Completion of tasks in agreed timeframe
- 20% off-the-job
- Functional Skills (where needed)
- Taking responsibility for own development
- Communicate support needs
- Coordinate development checks
- Create a learning record

#### Manager

- Facilitate time for learning
- Monthly 1-2-1 reviews with students to discuss progress, provide feedback and guide development
- Create and provide opportunities for student to participate in relevant work place tasks
- Keep an open communication lines with the student and employer
- Provide learning opportunities
- 20% off-the-job

#### Tutor

- Teaching
- Monitor progress
- Coach
- Feedback
- Online support
- Marking and assessment
- Preparation for final assessment
- Communicate with student and employer

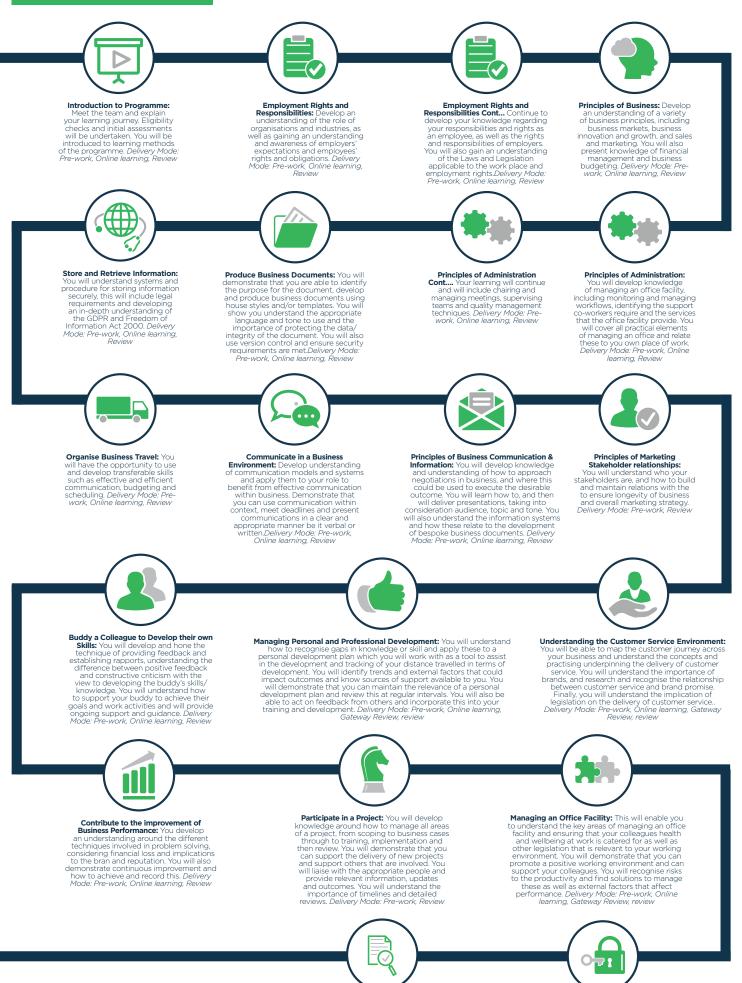
# 20% OFF-THE-JOB TRAINING

Each Apprenticeship requires the Apprentice to undertake a minimum of 20% of learning off-the-job.

This can include training that is delivered at the normal place of work, within normal working hours, but must not be delivered as part of normal working duties.

There are numerous activities which count towards this training, for example, listening to Podcasts, self-study, completing assignments and observing senior colleagues.

#### **APPRENTICESHIP SESSIONS**



End-Point Assessment (EPA): Completed by End-Point Assessment Organisation (EPAO) selected by Employer. Please see EPAO Assessment Plan Guidance and EPA Assessment Plan for detailed guidance on assessment activities. *Delivery Mode: Knowledge test, Project & Presentation, Profession discussion and interview*  Gateway Review: Review of learning and development of knowledge, skills and behaviours within the standards and preparation for End-Point Assessment. Delivery Mode: Pre-work, Online learning, Gateway Review, review