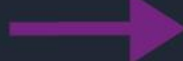


# Supporting students to find and apply for apprenticeships

Joanna Hughes – Solicitor



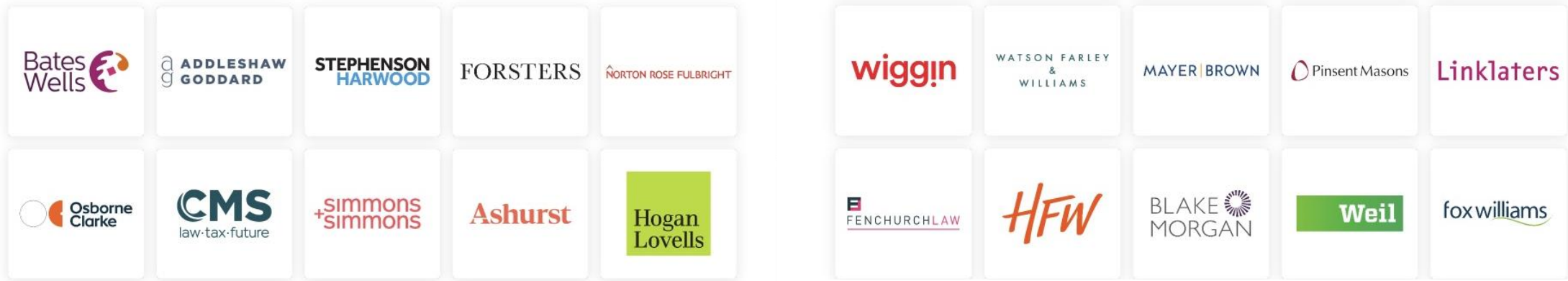
A place to find solicitor apprenticeship opportunities is [UCAS](#). For London-based solicitor apprenticeship opportunities another source is [City Century](#), which links through to all the law firms which offer solicitor apprenticeships in the City of London.

The City Century collaboration of law firms work hard to ensure that students have access to free materials to help students apply for solicitor apprenticeships. The City Century website hosts [recordings of panel sessions](#) at City Century student events. It also includes some 'big names' in the legal profession as well as solicitor apprentices too of course.

Many organizations including UCAS and City Century, create carefully curated social media posts and stories to engage with students.

Here is a just sample of the top law firms listed on the City Century website as offering solicitor apprenticeships:

Member Firms



## Tips from U6 students currently applying for solicitor apprenticeships

A student will need to apply to each employer separately, tailor each application very carefully to each law firm and we recommend using all the free resources they can get their hands on to help! These are two resources recommended by aspiring solicitor apprentices chosen by the City Century collaboration to be student ambassadors.

“[City Century](#) resources, especially the 10X10 series which allowed me to talk expertly on rather complex legal terms and issues like Due Diligence and how Law firms operate as a business”

“[Legal Cheek](#), has a new section of ‘Most lists’ of firms based specifically for aspiring solicitor apprenticeships, which allowed me to tailor my applications specifically”

There are also paid-for online products (some charging as much as £14.99 a month) which are targeted at undergraduates applying for traditional training contracts. These offer tips on applications, with insights about law firms, psychometric tests, preparing for assessment centres and case studies). A lot of this material is also available for free via City Century and also on law firm websites e.g. the [commercial awareness brochure](#) on the Farrer & Co website.

See the UCAS [Guide ‘Applying for a legal apprenticeship’](#) published in February 2024.



## Online experiences to help students with career choices – free for students

- [Springpod](#) 'taster experiences' – mentioned because of their working with both UCAS and the Department for Education
- [Forage](#) – some law firms already have free student materials for 16–18 year-olds and there will be new and exciting content for solicitor apprenticeships!
- [AllAboutLaw](#) – content relevant to students potentially interested in a solicitor apprenticeship, including [Choosing Your Path with Farrer & Co](#) (a quiz to help young people navigate the various routes into law/areas of law/client types). [Mayer Brown Apprentice](#) is another resource

## Podcasts

- [ReImagine Law](#) a podcast on the breadth of careers within the legal sector. Includes episodes on solicitor apprenticeships, in partnership with CMS: [Why apprenticeships are a good career choice – the parents perspective](#) and [Solicitor apprenticeships – how are you assessed](#)
- [Not All Lawyers Have Law Degrees](#) a BBC podcast exploring different career paths into law. Guests include solicitor apprentices, Early Careers professionals, BBC lawyers and The Law Society. Provides guidance on qualifying, funding, support and applying. Includes an interview with two solicitor apprentices (one in private practice and one within an in-house legal team): [Personal experience of legal apprenticeship](#).
- [The Parent Perspective Podcast](#) helping parents and carers to support their children with careers advice and guidance. Excellent guests, most recently an interview with Robert Halfon MP, called 'The Minister is back: Robert Halfon MP and National Apprenticeship Week 2024'.



### Podcasts Continued

- [Talking Law Podcast](#), hosted by Dr Sally Penni MBE, multi-award winning practicing barrister and TEDx speaker. Speakers such as The Rt Hon Victoria Prentis, a Government Minister who has served as Attorney General for England and Wales since 2022. The most recent podcast is with Joanna Hughes, Founder and Director of Joanna Hughes Solicitor Apprenticeships, in February 2024 discussing solicitor apprenticeships.

### Useful books for a School Library

- [‘Securing a Legal Apprenticeship’](#) (2022) by Maia Crockford (Year 5 solicitor apprentice and @mylegalcareer content creator) – available as an e-book only at present. Printed copy coming soon!
- ‘Understanding Apprenticeships – A Student Guide’ (2023) by Ben Rowland – covers all sectors.
- ‘All You Need To Know About The City’ (2019) by Christopher Stoakes – for students looking to secure a solicitor apprenticeship in the City of London.
- A Parents and Careers Booklet produced by Amazing Apprenticeships – [Parents\\_and\\_Carers-\\_Pack\\_October\\_2023](#)
- Finally, don’t forget all the good resources for careers leaders from the Careers & Enterprise Company. If you follow the CEC on LinkedIn you will see round-ups like this one posted on [LinkedIn](#) on 21 February 2024.

