



Apprentice case study —
Leeds Beckett University

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Case study — Instant impact for Leeds Beckett University

Leeds Beckett University supports a community of over 28,000 students. It has a proud 190-year history, dating back to the founding of Leeds Mechanics Institute in 1824. Its apprenticeship offering is growing fast. 850 apprentices are currently on programme, with another 400 set to join in September 2021. Leeds Beckett offers twenty Degree Apprenticeship programmes including Nursing, Civil Engineering and Chartered Manager.

In the early days of Leeds Beckett's Degree Apprenticeship offering, things were done manually, or using Microsoft packages. *"Our focus was on delivering apprenticeships well,"* explains Ian Maude, Head of Apprenticeships, *'But as our numbers quickly increased, we realised we needed to find a system to help us continue to deliver degree apprenticeships to a high and compliant standard.*



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“We chose Aptem having assessed a number of systems, because of its vast capability. The breadth of what it can do is impressive and it could properly integrate with our student record system – Banner. Many of the other systems we looked at offered workarounds rather than a full integration. Additionally the capabilities of other systems were narrower than Aptem.”

Leeds Beckett wanted an end-to-end system that could manage their complete apprenticeship offering. But they also had an immediate issue they needed addressing. *“Our ILR was created manually, which works well when you are dealing with small numbers,”* explains, Ian.

“As we grew this became increasing difficult to manage. It would essentially be the job of one person on a full-time basis to complete the ILRs each month. When we onboarded Aptem, the first thing we needed to do was automate this process. It was brilliant – plug and go and we were up and running immediately. Now ILRs are created in a matter of seconds. We share the task across the team, and we can focus the team on student experience rather than paperwork and process.”

As with all Aptem integrations, Leeds Beckett was assigned a dedicated Implementation Consultant, Viki Ivan, who has worked with them to customise the system to their requirements.

Why Aptem





“We have focused on building, integration and training. We’ve looked at what Aptem can do, what we want it to do and then built to our exact requirements. The implementation has been good. Viki has been excellent, holding regular training sessions using a train the trainer approach.”

Leeds Beckett created a core team of Aptem Champions. *“This was made up of our central apprenticeship team and representatives from other parts of University. This team came to the training sessions and were responsible for disseminating information. It worked well having representation across the University, rather than just the apprenticeships team.*

It’s really important to make stakeholders aware as early as possible and keep them involved throughout the implementation period,” recommends Ian.

As with a number of Aptem's customers, Leeds Beckett implemented the system remotely during the pandemic period. "We just adapted," said Ian. "We used Teams to run training and it worked fine. It would have been lovely to have had face-to-face meetings, but this worked just as well. Viki was great at following up questions and we planned ahead. Planning is really important – mapping out the sessions a couple of months in advance, so as to give participants lots of notice."

Leeds Beckett will be using Aptem across all apprenticeship programmes and are in the process of migrating current apprenticeship students already on programmes, to Aptem.

"Having everyone in one place so that we can use Aptem's reporting functionality will give us a really clear picture of the state of play on our programmes. In order to fully utilise the system, we need everyone to be on it."

Client summary

"Aptem is a great product that can do a great deal. It is a true end-to-end system, from Student Day 1 to completion. It has more capability than any other system we've come across. Just the ILR functionality has made a huge difference to our people and processes, and we are finding things all the time within the system that will improve our apprenticeship delivery."

If you are an organisation that helps deliver apprenticeship programmes and would like to transform the way you deliver apprenticeships in a cost-effective, efficient and compliant way, get in touch:

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www.aptem.co.uk/apprentice

Aptem is one of the fastest-growing SaaS software to manage vocational training, skills and employability programs. In Addition to Aptem Apprentice, we offer a range of other solutions to support the development of vocational skills and re-employment.

- ✓ **Aptem Enrol**, remote onboarding of apprenticeship students, for colleges.
- ✓ **Aptem Employ**, a unique, flexible, award-winning employability system that helps to get people back into the workplace quickly and for the long term.
- ✓ **Aptem Skills**, our award-winning end-to-end delivery platform that enables fully compliant AEB course delivery and accelerates re-employment.