



Apprentice case study —
Edge Hill University

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Edge Hill University has been providing higher education since 1885, with a mission to create opportunity from knowledge. It was crowned Modern University of the year by The Times and Sunday Times Good University Guide 2022, and was awarded the title of University of the Year in the Educate North awards.

Edge Hill educates students across a wide range of subjects and is one of the largest providers of health, social care and medicine education in the North West of England. Among the wide range of undergraduate courses on offer, Edge Hill has a range of degree apprenticeships in Nursing, Nursing Associate, and Advanced Clinical Practitioner. The University works with a number of NHS Trusts and the demand for nursing and healthcare professionals is increasing significantly. As a result, the University has recently onboarded a large number of new students.



Edge Hill
University



“We are helping to address national and local shortages. Our partners find the apprenticeship system’s blend of high-quality academic and practical studies is effective when preparing someone for a career in Healthcare,” explains Craig Hutchinson-Howarth, Director of Strategic Planning at Edge Hill University. *“The apprenticeship scheme runs in parallel with the mainstream professional training we offer.”*

The growing demand for Healthcare apprentices meant it was essential for Edge Hill to have a system that could streamline and manage administration of high volumes of students, while also supporting partner employers and maintaining compliance. *“Our healthcare partners have greater priorities than admin tasks, so it was very important that we procured a solution that would reduce the admin burden on them,”* said Craig.

“There were a number of factors that contributed to our selection of Aptem Apprentice,” said Joanne Sage, Compliance Manager. “Ease of use, easy to navigate, easy access to reports and the ability to create bespoke reports, were among our highest priorities. We also needed the ability to create reviews, placements and workshops.

“Another key reason was Aptem’s reputation. It was the market leader in the university apprenticeship sector. Feedback from current Aptem customers was very positive. We were also very impressed by the support Aptem was offering, both during Implementation and beyond, with their Customer Success strategy.”

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Why Aptem



Six weeks to live

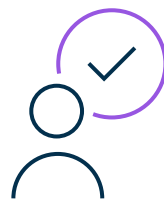
Edge Hill had a challenge – to implement the system in six weeks so that it could start enrolling students. *“We achieved this by having a very focused collection of colleagues at the University, supported by a culture of delivery. Our Leadership team supported the project team to implement Aptem. In addition, we had a superb, proactive, flexible yet focused Implementation Consultant at Aptem,”* explains Joanne.

In May 2021 Edge Hill procured Aptem Apprentice as an end-to-end system, to be used for all degree apprenticeships it was delivering. By mid-June 2021 the first learners were being onboarded. By July the delivery content was written and by October 2021 all migration work was completed. Gary Harvey, Implementation Consultant at Aptem, explains how this was achieved:

“The team was extremely organised. Joanne led a small and highly effective project team. From the start there was buy-in from the Executive team and the faculties.”

Joanne concurs: *“We ran a scoping and project-mapping workshop upfront, the output of which was a roadmap that we stringently followed. We had good internal support and were very well supported by Aptem.”*

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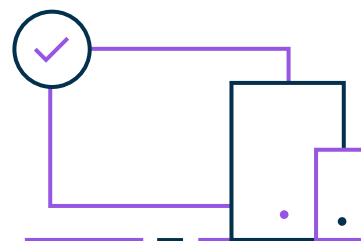
When implementing Aptem over a short time period Edge Hill shares the following learnings:

- 1 Prepare in advance.**
The project team at Edge Hill undertook a detailed project-mapping strategy that they used through the procurement process to understand the products in the marketplace. They chose Aptem because it best suited their needs.
- 2 A small, active and engaged project team is better than a large complex group.**
- 3 Get support from SLT and Faculties up front and be clear about the goal.**
- 4 Resource appropriately.**
Edge Hill had a dedicated member of their team for Implementation, who worked very closely with the Implementation Consultant at Aptem.

Making the most of the system

“We find the system very user friendly,” said Joanne. Key functionality that Edge Hill is really benefiting from include the off-the-job calculations that are all done by Aptem, being able to process ILRs digitally and the process automations within the ILR that reduces admin time and margin of error, and the reporting that helps to inform operational and strategic decisions.

“We find the system very user friendly,”





The marriage of on and offline

Edge Hill was very keen to keep face-to-face touchpoints with students, such as the Student Onboarding Days, but now rather than spending a large proportion of the day distributing, signing and collecting in paperwork that all had to be entered manually post-event, students complete and sign everything within Aptem before the event, freeing up time for more important student-experience tasks and a focus on how to use the system.

“Aptem has enabled us to use our time more wisely during these face-to-face touchpoints. Students benefit from a better overall experience.”

In conclusion

“The Aptem team has helped us to achieve a challenging timeline that has effectively supported both our students and the University as a whole. This has given us confidence both in the system and the people supporting us at Aptem. There is a growing need for healthcare professionals in the United Kingdom, with the University looking to educate and train students to meet this requirement. We look forward to continuing to work in partnership with Aptem over the coming years.” Craig Hutchinson-Howarth, Director of Strategic Planning, Edge Hill University.



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:

enquiries@aptem.co.uk
020 3758 8540

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.