

Press Release

London, 11th March 2013

Accor expands UK apprenticeship scheme

Accor, the world's leading hotel operator and market leader in Europe, will expand its UK apprenticeship programme over the next 12 months. Over the past year, the scheme has met its target of 100 participants across all of Accor's brands in the UK, and due to its popularity and success, the company is endeavouring to increase that number over the coming year.

Accor has committed to further develop its successful apprenticeship scheme which has encompassed 250 people in the last eight years. Their **Apprenticeship Programme** is open to young people (18-24 year olds) and gives them on-the-job training and a national qualification: NVQ Level II or NVQ Level III together with a Diploma in Hospitality Supervision and Leadership which can be achieved over two years. The aim is to develop future managers required to support the ambitious growth of Accor hotels network in the UK.

Participants will not only gain job-specific expertise but also life skills with courses in numeracy, literacy and customer service. Any 18 to 24 year old prospective or current Accor employee is eligible to participate in the programme.

Since the programme launched in 2004, over 250 people have participated, completion rates are above 80% and more than 50% remain in the network. The programme is run alongside the Accor Academie, the company's industry-leading training and career development centre in London.

Thomas Dubaere, Managing Director, Accor UK & Ireland said: "The expansion of this scheme is another example of our commitment to investing in new talent and developing careers across our portfolio brands. Developing the managers of the future is a key part of ensuring we deliver our UK expansion plan. We also have a responsibility as an employer to provide our staff with every possible opportunity to succeed in this industry."

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