

TransPennine Express opens doors to next generation of railway talent

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Five new apprentices have joined the **TransPennine Express** (TPE) team.

The newcomers, who will be working in the business development, IT, performance, and service planning departments, have joined a two-year programme, which will see them fully immersed in the organisation, whilst working towards gaining the skills needed for a career in the rail industry.

They will all gain a professional qualification, with TPE working with training providers to ensure the qualifications are relevant and impact both the business and the apprentices positively.

Becky Jones, talent and apprenticeship manager for TransPennine Express said: “We’re thrilled to be developing the next generation of rail talent, and are proud to be introducing our five new team members to the world of rail and equipping them with the skills they need to succeed and develop an amazing career.

“Apprenticeships are such a great way for young people to kick-start their career, allowing them to further their education and gain great work experience at the same time. At TransPennine Express we want our

apprentices to gain knowledge of the whole business, giving them a great start as they begin to build their careers.

“Our apprentices have already got stuck into our operations and are clearly demonstrating their passion for the rail industry. We’ve got a very strong intake this year and it’s going to be really interesting to see how they develop over the coming two years on the scheme, and what they go on to do in the future.”

The apprentices have also started working towards a Gold Duke of Edinburgh award, harnessing knowledge in areas such as first aid, retail training and World Host Customer Service, preparing them for their future.

Roman Burke, a performance apprentice, has joined TPE since finishing his GCSEs. He said: “Coming out of school I had many routes to go down, mainly sixth form or college. Before I heard about the opportunity at TPE, I was pretty set on choosing one of those options.

“But as soon as I learnt about the role and the company, I knew this was the right route to go down. My dad had already been a driver for the company, so I knew I wanted to work for the organisation and begin my journey in the rail industry.

“In my role, I’ve been taking a close look at the performance of our trains using special software. Our priority is making sure we run a reliable and robust service for customers.

“What I’ve most enjoyed is going out on the network and seeing different parts of the company, learning about how they operate and what they contribute.”

Many of those from previous intakes have joined TPE permanently since finishing their apprenticeship. Those from the 2021 cohort have already started securing full time roles within the revenue protection, social media and control teams.

TPE is proud to be supporting and developing new talent within the industry. More information about the apprenticeship scheme can be [found via the TPE website](#). To be notified when applications for the 2023 apprenticeship programme open, [register here](#).