

Pharmacy Technician Training Programme. Apprenticeship Pathway

Information pack



BUTTERCUPS
LYCEUM EDUCATION GROUP

Embark on a learning journey towards becoming a pharmacy technician.

Choosing a career in professional pharmacy practice is both rewarding and impactful. By enrolling on our Level 3 Pharmacy Technician Apprenticeship, you are not simply joining a training programme – you are beginning a purposeful journey with a clear vision for the future.

Developed by experienced pharmacy professionals, this apprenticeship offers the unique opportunity to earn while you learn. It combines robust theoretical teaching with practical, hands-on experience in the workplace. Upon successful completion, you will be eligible to register as a pharmacy technician with the General Pharmaceutical Council (GPhC).

Why choose Buttercups Training?

- Over 35 years of expertise: we are trusted leaders in pharmacy education with a long-standing reputation for quality training
- Bespoke b-Hive online learning platform: our interactive platform gives learners 24/7 access to engaging teaching and resources
- Live interactive classroom sessions: virtual classrooms led by experienced pharmacy professionals
- Tailored Individual Training Plan: each learner receives a personalised plan adapted to their workplace setting
- Dedicated Pastoral and Academic Support: ongoing support from dedicated tutors to ensure learners stay on track and feel supported
- Part of the BPP Education Group: benefit from the expertise and resources of a globally recognised education provider
- Flexible delivery model: no need to travel allowing you to balance work and learning
- All training in one place – we've got every aspect of your pharmacy training covered

About the programme

Our Pharmacy Technician Training Programme (PTTP) combines flexible online learning with live virtual classrooms, led by experienced pharmacy professionals. There's no need to travel – apprentices, workplace training supervisors and employers can access everything online, reducing costs and disruption while building vital digital skills.

Learning is delivered through the b-Hive, our bespoke online platform. Here, apprentices access engaging content including expert patient videos, webinars, quizzes and interactive resources – available 24/7 on any device. Practical experience and progress are tracked through the OneFile e-portfolio.

With a blend of e-learning, workplace training and tutor support, the programme helps apprentices build the knowledge, skills and behaviours they need to meet the GPhC's standards. Learning is structured across 15 modules covering:

- Person-centred care
- Professionalism
- Professional knowledge and skills
- Collaboration

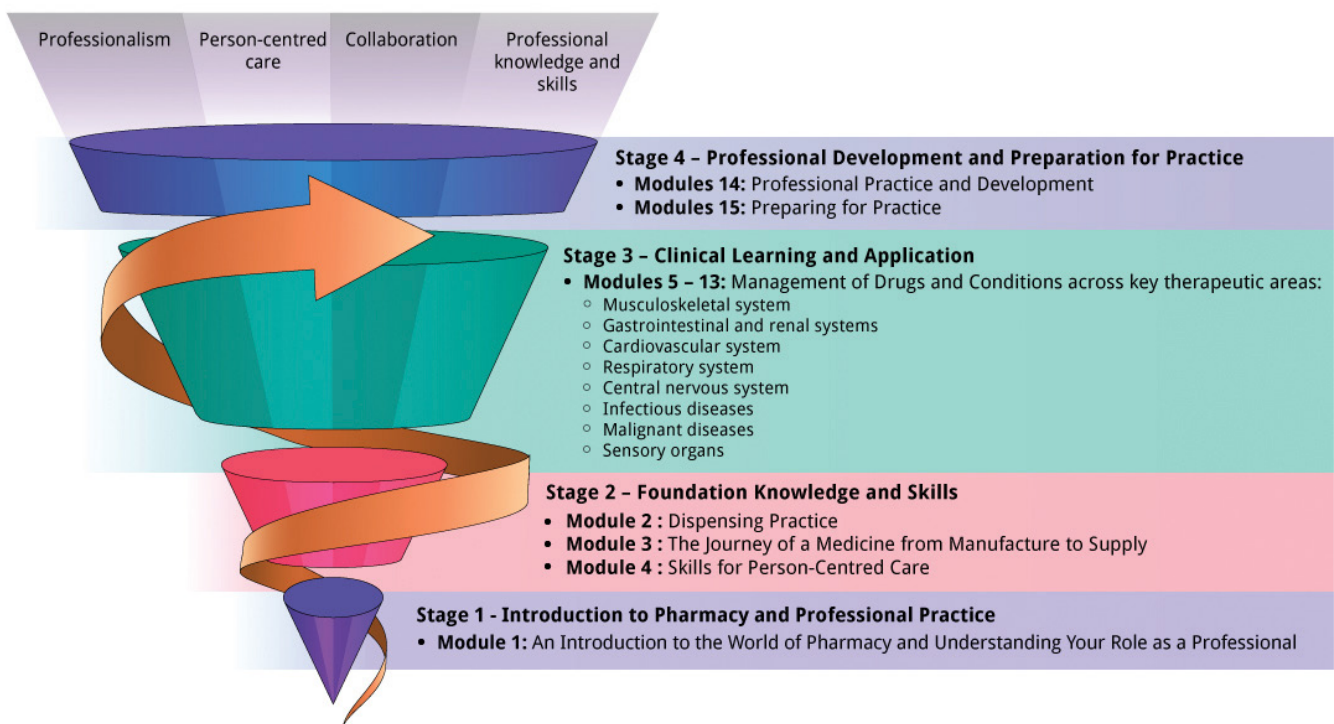
This approach ensures apprentices grow in confidence and competence, applying their learning directly to real-world pharmacy practice.

At the end of the two-year programme, successful apprentices can register with the GPhC as qualified pharmacy technicians – ready to take on professional responsibilities within the healthcare team.

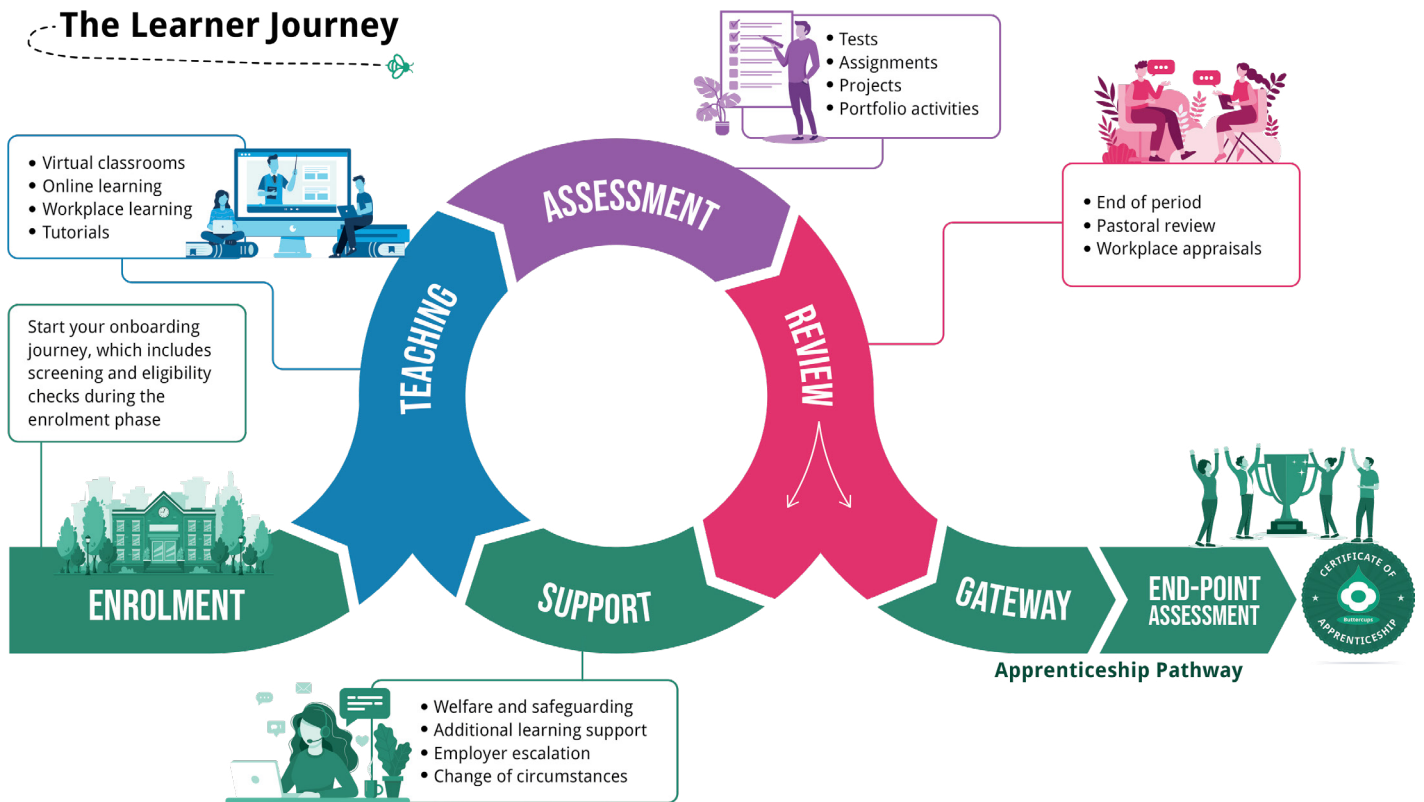
Key Features

- ✓ Blended Online Learning
- ✓ Work-Based Learning and e-Portfolio
- ✓ Support Throughout the Programme
- ✓ Aligned to GPhC Standards
- ✓ Comprehensive Curriculum
- ✓ Digital Skills Development
- ✓ Career Progression

The four domains (professionalism, person centred care, collaboration and professional knowledge and skills) are continuous themes through all stages of the programme.



Programme stages.



Enrolment – Where your journey begins

At Buttercups, we believe a strong start sets the foundation for success. Enrolment is the first step on your learner journey and ensures you are fully prepared to begin your training.

As part of the process, we carry out screening and eligibility checks to make sure every learner has a fair and robust entry onto the programme. This includes reviewing your potential to become a registered pharmacy technician, taking into account your current ability, health and character.

To do this, you will complete an enrolment form alongside your employer and workplace training supervisor.

To register as a pharmacy technician, the GPhC requires evidence of Level 2 English, maths and science. To support you, **all learners complete a short screening assessment** at the start of the programme. This helps us understand your current level and put the right support in place.

What happens next depends on your screening result:

- **If you achieve 60% or above**
You will not be required to complete Functional Skills. If you do not already hold Level 2 English and/or maths and science qualifications, you may choose to complete Functional Skills if you would like additional support.

- **If you achieve below 60% but already hold Level 2 English, maths or science**

You will be supported through an access course, with additional guidance available where needed, to help you succeed on the programme

- **If you achieve below 60% and do not hold Level 2 English, maths or science**

You will be required to complete Level 2 Functional Skills alongside your training. We take this approach because strong skills in communication and numeracy are essential for safe, effective pharmacy practice and long-term career progression. While Functional Skills are no longer government-mandated in all cases, we believe they play a vital role in supporting both professional confidence and patient safety.

- **Learners under the age of 19**

If you are under 19 and do not hold Level 2 English, maths or science you will be required to complete Level 2 Functional Skills, in line with current requirements.

Our approach ensures you receive the right support from day one, helping you progress confidently towards pharmacy technician registration.



Teaching

Our teaching approach blends flexibility with real-world impact. Apprentices benefit from interactive virtual classrooms, engaging online learning, practical workplace experience, and personalised tutorials with expert tutors.

This mix of learning styles means knowledge isn't just taught – it's applied. Apprentices can build confidence, connect theory to everyday pharmacy practice, and develop the skills they need to succeed in their role and beyond.

Support

At Buttercups, we're here to make sure every apprentice feels supported throughout their journey.

- Dedicated tutor – your first point of contact for guidance, feedback and progress reviews
- Learner Support Team – on hand by phone, email or online for queries and extra help
- Additional Learning Support – tailored strategies from our specialist coordinator to remove barriers and help every learner achieve their best
- Safeguarding & Welfare Team – ensuring apprentices feel safe, supported and able to raise any concerns with confidence
- Regular progress reviews – keeping apprentices, employers and supervisors up to date and on track for success

With personalised support, expert tutors and a caring team behind them, apprentices have everything they need to succeed.

Assessment

Your progress will be supported and monitored throughout the programme, with assessments designed to showcase your knowledge, skills and professional growth.

You'll complete a range of activities – from tests and projects to CPD tasks and workplace observations – that demonstrate how you are meeting the learning outcomes.

Most assessments are carried out by Buttercups, while your workplace training supervisor will play an active role in observing your practice and tracking your development on the job.

All assessments are subject to robust quality assurance, including external verification, and in some cases may be invigilated by your supervisor.

The programme is assessed holistically – meaning every element works together to build your success. To achieve your qualification, the full programme must be completed.

Review

To keep you on track and supported, you'll take part in regular pastoral reviews with Buttercups, as well as end-of-period reviews to reflect on your progress and achievements.

Every six months, you'll also have a workplace appraisal with your training supervisor, ensuring your development in the workplace is recognised and aligned with your learning.

Gateway

The Gateway meeting is the final checkpoint before you move on to your End-Point Assessment. Think of it as a chance to celebrate how far you've come and confirm that you're ready for the finish line.

At Gateway:

- You, your workplace training supervisor and your Buttercups tutor will meet together
- We'll review your progress and confirm you've completed all the learning, skills and behaviours required by the apprenticeship standard
- It's also an opportunity to share evidence of your achievements and show that you're fully prepared
- Once everyone is happy, you'll be signed off as ready for End-Point Assessment – the final step to officially completing your apprenticeship

End Point Assessment and Progression

At the end of your apprenticeship, you'll go through an End-Point Assessment (EPA). Don't worry – this isn't a test you have to sit!

The EPA is carried out by an independent External Quality Assurer (EQA), who reviews and validates your portfolio and documents. Their job is to check everything meets the standards set by the apprenticeship and the GPhC.

- No extra exams or assessments are required at this stage
- You just need to stay in employment until the EPA is complete

The EPA process usually takes around one month once all your paperwork has been received.

What you need to apply

To enrol, you must:

- Be employed in a suitable pharmacy setting
- Have a GCSE Grade C/4 or above (or equivalent) in:
 - English
 - Maths
 - Science

If you don't meet these, don't worry – we offer support courses to help you qualify.



Roles and responsibilities.

What you can expect from us (Buttercups Training)

We will:

- Provide a clear training plan and a named tutor to support your journey
- Deliver high-quality teaching, assessment and feedback to help you succeed
- Monitor your progress regularly and put extra support in place if needed
- Give you access to online learning, resources, webinars and virtual classrooms
- Support your wellbeing and safeguarding needs through our dedicated Learner Support Team
- Work closely with your employer and workplace training supervisor to make sure you get the right time, resources and supervision for your training
- Ensure your training meets apprenticeship, GPhC and regulatory standards

What we expect from you (the Apprentice)

You will need to:

- Commit to completing the programme and meeting agreed deadlines
- Engage positively with your training, feedback and reviews
- Take part in monthly progress meetings and six-monthly appraisals with your workplace training supervisor
- Complete and submit your work via the online e-portfolio
- Inform us if you are absent, unable to attend reviews, or if anything affects your learning or progress
- Uphold GPhC standards and act professionally at all times
- Raise concerns or ask for support if you are struggling with your workload, wellbeing or progression

What we expect from your employer and workplace training supervisor

They will:

- Employ and pay you for your working hours, including off-the-job training time
- Provide at least 6–7 hours per week (for full-time apprentices) for off-the-job training, plus extra time if you need English or maths
- Appoint a registered pharmacist or pharmacy technician to act as your workplace training supervisor
- Give you day-to-day supervision, regular feedback and mentoring
- Meet with you monthly to review your progress and every six months for appraisals
- Ensure you are treated fairly, supported in your role and safeguarded at work
- Notify Buttercups if issues arise that could affect your learning or if your employment changes



Ready to apply? Here's what to do next.

If you're excited to begin your journey towards becoming a pharmacy technician, the next step is simple: apply today.

- Complete the Enrolment Form – this will need input from you, your employer and your workplace training supervisor
- Provide Evidence of Qualifications – you'll be asked to share proof of your English, Maths and Science qualifications (or equivalent)
- Take the Screening Assessment – this helps us confirm you meet the minimum entry requirements and identifies any extra support you may need

Once we've received everything, our team will review your application and guide you through the next steps. With Buttercups, you'll have the support you need right from day one.



FAQs.

When does the programme start?

Regular intakes throughout the year.

What opportunities are available after completing this apprenticeship?

Completing the Pharmacy Technician (Integrated) apprenticeship opens the door to a wide range of career and development opportunities:

1. Programme Completion Certificate

Upon successful completion of the apprenticeship, learners will be awarded both the Level 3 Pharmacy Technician (Integrated) Certificate and the Buttercups Pharmacy Technician (Integrated) Apprenticeship Certificate. This is a testament to their training, skills and expertise in pharmacy practice.

2. Registration with the General Pharmaceutical Council (GPhC)

After successfully completing the programme, learners will be eligible to register with the GPhC as a pharmacy technician. This registration is essential as it formally recognises your competence and allows you to practise as a pharmacy technician in the UK, while committing to the professional standards and ethics expected in the sector.

3. Post-Registration Qualifications

After qualifying you can continue building your expertise with additional qualifications such as:

- Level 4 qualifications
- Level 6 qualifications

4. Career Progression and Leadership:

As you gain experience, opportunities may arise to take on more responsibility. Many pharmacy technicians go on to:

- Mentor and supervise trainees
- Manage pharmacy teams
- Step into leadership roles within hospital, community, or primary care settings

5. Continuous Professional Development (CPD)

The world of pharmacy is constantly evolving. Through CPD activities you'll stay up to date with the latest advancements in medicines, technology, and patient care, keeping your skills fresh and your knowledge current.





For further information or to discuss any of the details within this document, please contact:

0115 937 4936

training@buttercups.co.uk

We welcome any questions or queries that you may have.

www.buttercupstraining.co.uk

Disclaimer: This information is accurate as at the date of publication, February 2026. It is subject to change. This document is for guidance only and does not form part of any contract. For more information, visit buttercupstraining.co.uk.

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