



## **CASE STUDY - Northumberland County Council**

Implementing eSignUp at Northumberland County Council has revolutionised their apprenticeship signup process, making it streamlined, efficient, and compliant, saving time, money, and reducing their environmental impact.

Lyndsay James, Service Lead - Apprenticeship Northumberland Skills explains how...

Prior to implementing eSignup, we were completely paper based. This required us to develop our own paperwork, constantly changing to adhere to any changes in funding rules and to include commitment statements, training plans and all other required paperwork which required wet signatures. Our Employer Engagement Officers travelled the length and breadth of Northumberland in order to gain signatures, which was not only a costly exercise, but also sometimes resulted in information being missed or incorrect. Wet signatures and virtual signings via email were outdated and caused numerous inefficiencies.

Since implementing eSignUp we have turned a massive corner as a Training Provider.

Electronic signatures makes it easier for both employers and learners, making the apprenticeship onboarding experience much more streamlined and allowing multiple people to collaborate on and sign the documents simultaneously. The process previously could have taken up to two weeks or longer and was very error prone. All paperwork can now be quality checked before going to onboarding and sending for signatures, which has reduced errors in our data significantly.

eSignUp up has helped us become much more efficient and has so many benefits. Not only does it save time, it also saves money, reduces costs in travel, and ensures compliance with funding rules, measuring and tracking.

We can track workflow, enabling us to pinpoint the status of onboarding with just a few clicks. We have been able to empty our archives, as we no longer have to store paper documents (which can easily get lost and are subject to physical damage), so no more filing cabinets taking up valuable space in the office!

The ability to incorporate LRS and ULN into eSignUp ensures previous qualifications and the apprentice's ULN are correct, which eliminates problems with regards to the DAS account if an incorrect ULN was on the paper-based documentation. We are continually looking to improve on environmental performance and eSignUp helps us cut our waste as well as saving on time and costs.

eSignUp is continuously updated, ensuring we are always compliant, and training is provided by eSignUp to cover these updates. Support received at the beginning of the process and throughout from the team has been excellent and I would recommend eSignUp to any other Training Provider or College!