

Driver Academy launched to train HGV drivers



The shortage of HGV drivers in the UK has been high on the news agenda for much of the latter half of 2021.

Here at Whistl, we're taking steps to ensure a steady supply of qualified truckers by launching the Whistl Driver Academy.

The Academy aims to train 100 drivers in its first year, targeting newcomers to the industry including the long-term unemployed, the young, and female applicants. The fact that Whistl drivers enjoy a good work-life balance (see opposite), together with fully-funded training to HGV level (typically costing £7,000), removes two of the biggest barriers to a driving career. Academy courses are already operating at our Bedford, Bolton and Bristol sites.

A multi-level approach

Whistl Driver Academy is just one strand of our multi-level approach to attracting and developing HGV drivers.

Others include offering:

- HGV apprenticeships to over 18s with a driving licence
- Fully-funded HGV training to our existing van drivers and warehouse staff
- Fully-funded Class 1 training for Class 2 drivers, plus Driver Certificate of Professional Competence (CPC) for HGV 1 classified drivers
- A £1000 signing-on bonus for qualified Class 1 drivers

"It's important we invest in the next-generation of HGV drivers, so we've launched the Whistl Driver Academy for those who may not have considered this career choice," said Whistl CEO Nick Wells. "We're a people business, and the role our drivers play as ambassadors for the company is hugely important."

For anyone interested please contact our training partners, TRS Training, via www.trstrainingltd.com to apply

Work-life at Whistl

Our 500-strong vehicle fleet is modern and well-maintained, but much more than that, our drivers enjoy a work-life balance not always found in the industry.

- 👍 *Own bed at night – no overnight stays*
- 👍 *Full-time or part-time flexible shifts*
- 👍 *No multiple pick-ups or drop-offs*
- 👍 *Minimal manual handling*

