Building apprentice motivation

“Kate has been working with you now for 3 months. At first she was really energetic, always on time and asking what else she could do at work. She constantly talked about TAFE and how much she was enjoying her role. She still seems to be enjoying her role, but you’ve noticed a slip in her motivation. She doesn’t have the same spark. You want to help her regain that level of excitement and motivation she had initially but you’re not sure what to do.”

5 tips for increasing apprentice's motivation

1. Create a positive environment:
If you’re motivated, inspired and happy to be at work. This will feed down to your apprentices. Think about how people see you at work, is this inspiring for your apprentice?

2. Build a vision:
Employees that are motivated and engaged can see how they contribute to the overall business. Talk to your apprentice about their role and how they fit into the business. Open the door to career possibilities and advancement. Show them what they can become.

3. Remember reward:
Whether it’s a ‘head home early today’, or a small monetary bonus. Reward hard work. Recognise a job well-done. By rewarding your apprentice's motivation and application you’ll inspire them to apply themselves even more.

4. Don’t forget about the fun:
For many apprentices, starting work is a big deal. The first few months is overwhelming. Plan some time to unwind and recharge. Whether that be a staff night out, or a fun activity where they can let loose, get to know the team or just have a laugh. Happy employees, means a happy business.

5. Create opportunities to grow:
Keep challenging your apprentice. Expose them to new things, offer them learning opportunities that keep them interested and engaged. The more you invest in them, the more they’ll invest in you.