



RAF VALLEY - ANGLESEY

Basic Flying and Fast Jet Training Instructor Roles

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Our passion is for training, helping our customers realise their potential and deliver their Mission

Our people are the most important part of the training solutions we provide.

Ascent is seeking Basic Flying Training (BFT) and Fast Jet Training (FJT) instructors at RAF Valley on Anglesey in North Wales. We are looking to fill flying and non-flying roles including Qualified Instructors (QIs), Qualified Flying Instructors (QFIs) and Qualified Synthetic Flying Instructors (QSFIIs).

You would be permanently based at RAF Valley in Anglesey, an area of natural beauty, which may be a small island in North Wales, but has a big, boundless personality. It has a strong identity, atmosphere, culture and community spirit and Ascent is proud to be part of that community.

For aircrew with the necessary levels of experience and expertise, we will pay you to convert onto the Texan T1 (UK version of the T6-C) or the Hawk T2 and train you

"As an instructor... you will deliver a varied and exciting syllabus"

to becoming a Central Flying School approved Qualified Flying Instructor.

This is a fantastic opportunity to do what you love doing, in a military environment, and help train the next generation of fighter pilots.

As either a flying or synthetic instructor you will deliver a varied and exciting syllabus, which includes basic conversion, advanced instrument flying, low level navigation, close formation, tactical formation, weapon delivery, fighter manoeuvres and threat reactions. Our trainees operate initially as singletons and then mature into pairs work as wingman and leader.

We also offer a managed pathway for Military Personnel looking to transition seamlessly into Civilian employment.



Requirements and benefits

As an instructor you will have:

- A driven focus on safety and assurance
- Strong values of respect, resilience and integrity
- High professional standards
- Operational experience and a military ethos
- A forward leaning approach to commercial relationships
- A desire to be part of a world-class team, delivering exceptional flying training

Application requirements:

ESSENTIAL

Previous military experience operating as a pilot in a frontline operational environment

HIGHLY DESIRABLE

CFS Instructor category

DESIRABLE

Aircrew Instructor Course with Enhanced Instructional Techniques add on

What are the benefits?

- Conversion onto Type (Texan T1/ Hawk T2/ Ground Based Training Equipment – Flying Training Devices)
- CFS Instructor category
- Working in partnership with military colleagues
- Bolstering UK Defence by delivering the next generation of fighter pilots
- Equivalent to 25 days annual leave plus bank holidays (extra days with length of service)
- Private AXA health care for you and your family
- Pension plan (up to 6% matched)
- Life Assurance (up to 3x your annual salary)
- Flexible benefits (buying and selling holiday, BUPA dental, cycle2work scheme, retail discounts)
- Enhanced maternity and paternity leave and pay
- Enhanced company sick pay, which increases with length of service
- Employee Assistance Programme (24/7 free and confidential legal and wellbeing advice)
- Annual reviews of your salary and individual learning and development plan
- Mental health support and subscription to the Unmind platform for you and a plus one



Why Ascent

Ascent has been a trusted provider of innovative training systems for more than 16 years. Since 2008, we have designed and delivered world-class, bespoke training for the armed services, through the UK Military Flight Training System (UKMFTS).

A joint venture between Lockheed Martin and Babcock International, Ascent employs 410+ staff across six UK sites, designing, developing and delivering training, technology products and technical services.

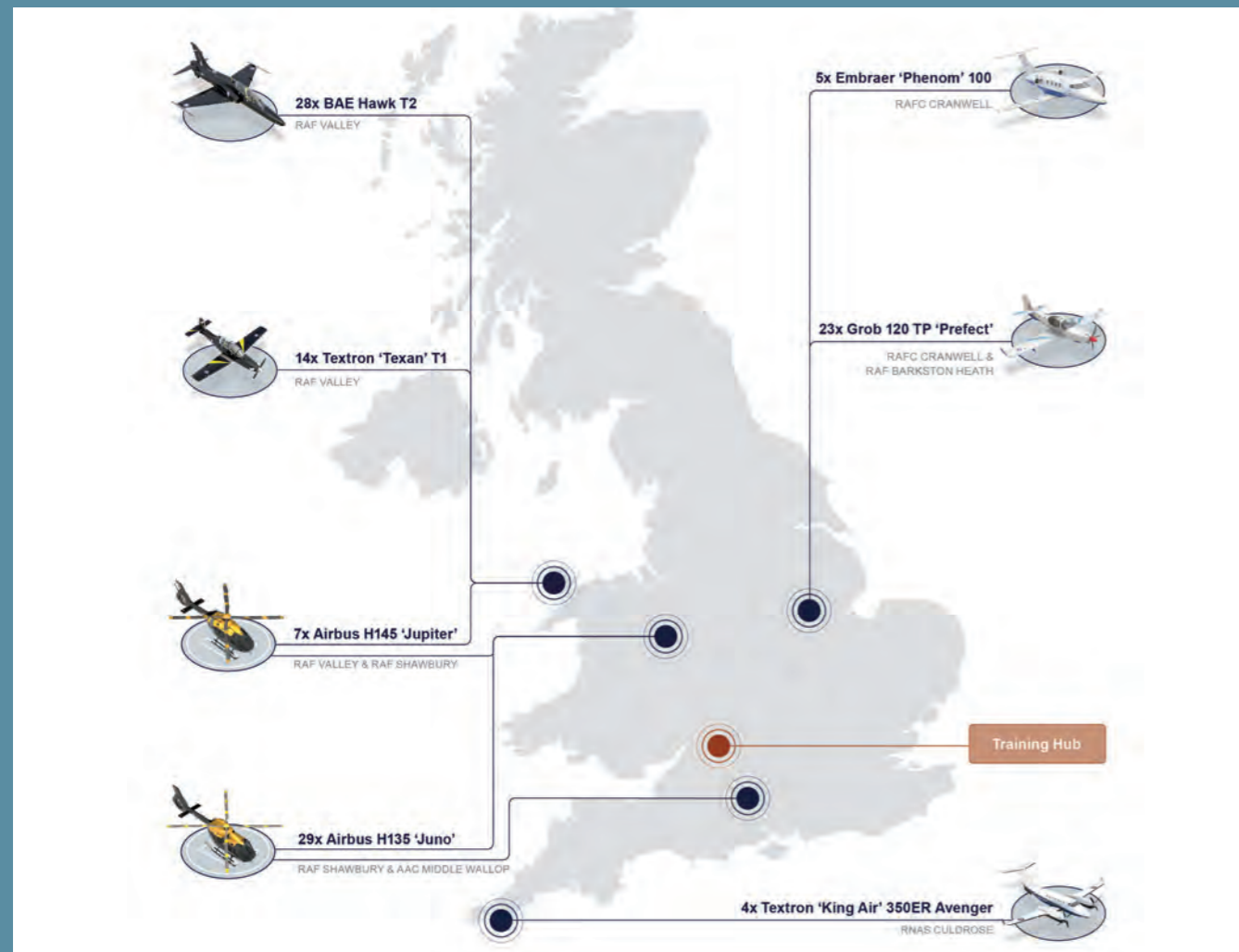
We pride ourselves on our strong partnerships and understanding of our customers' needs, offering bespoke turnkey training solutions that generate mission-ready teams, through our unique blend of live and synthetic training.

Ascent trains UK Armed Forces' fast jet, multi-engine and rotary wing pilots and rear-crew/mission aircrew, through Elementary, Basic and Advanced Flying Training. We currently operate a fleet of 110 aircraft and over 100 simulators at our

modern training centres, delivering next generation combat leaders to FTUs/OCUs, along with instructor qualification upgrades. By May 2024 - as part of UKMFTS - we have flown more than 160,000 accident-free flight hours and 110,000 simulation hours, across our sites.

At Ascent, our values are rooted in respect – for our employees, our partners and our customers. That's why championing diversity and inclusion is so important to us. When we embrace different perspectives and give everyone the chance to be the best they can be, we can think in new, creative ways that grow and enhance our business.

We are committed to equal opportunities for all. We pride ourselves on being a Disability Confident Committed Employer. We actively practice inclusivity for all people with disabilities where we provide workplace opportunities and experiences. As a supportive employer we endeavour to accommodate all disabilities and will always work with our employees to make provisions for their disability needs.



A vertical timeline detailing key milestones from 2003 to 2026*. The timeline is flanked by icons representing various aircraft and documents.

- 2003**: Invitation to negotiate for Training Service Partner (TSP)
- 2008**: Advanced Jet Trainer contract signed between MOD & Ascent
- 2010**: Rear Crew Stage 1 contract signed
- 2011**: Strategic Defence and Security Review 10 changes size and profile of the program
- 2012**: Rear Crew training commences RAF Barkston Heath, RNAS Culdrose
- 2012**: Advanced Fast Jet phase 4 training commences at RAF Valley
- 2012-2014**: Industry engaged in Rotary Wing and Fixed Wing competition
- 2016**: Strategic Defence and Security Review 15 increases the size of the programme
- 2016**: Fixed Wing & Rotary Wing contracts awarded
- 2018**: Rotary Wing training commences
- 2018**: Elementary flying training commences
- 2019**: Multi Engine training commences
- 2019**: Basic flying training begins
- 2019**: Rotary Wing Strategic Defence and Security Review 15 Contract Award
- 2020**: Rear Crew Stage 1 Ext
- 2020**: Full Capability Commencement Milestone
- 2021**: Strategic Defence and Security Review Fixed Wing Award
- 2023**: Rear Crew Stage 1 Sustainment programme commences
- 2023**: EDF Energy and Bristows Training Contract
- 2026***: Future ISTAR Rear Crew Training System (FIRCTS)

Heritage

RAF Valley provides both Basic and Advanced Fast Jet Training using the Texan T1 and BAE Hawk T2, along with mountain and maritime training for aircrew using the Airbus Jupiter H135 helicopter.

As part of BFT

You will work alongside 72(F) squadron, which started its service life supporting the army during World War 1 on operations in the Middle East. The squadron then became a fighter unit, transitioning from Gloster Gladiators to Gloster Javelin all-weather jets and flew the Supermarine Spitfire during the Battle of Britain. From 1961 until 2002 the squadron flew helicopters in a transport role.

"Ascent is very proud to work with these squadrons - which have rich and unique histories - and we aim to maintain their high standards."

As part of FJT

You will work alongside either 25 (F) Sqn or 4(AC) Sqn. 25 (F) Sqn formed at RAF Montrose in Scotland in September 1915 and served with distinction throughout WW1 and WW2. The squadron then conducted Air Defence operations with a series of early jet aircraft types, followed by the Bloodhound Surface to Air Missile and, latterly, the Tornado F3, before being disbanded on 4 Apr 2008. 25 (F) Sqn was reformed at RAF Valley in 2018 to conduct Advanced Flying Training on the Hawk T2.

4 (AC) Sqn formed at Farnborough as part of the Royal Flying Corps in 1912, primarily supporting Army operations during WW1. It became part of the Second Tactical Air Force in 1943, beginning 55 years of service on the continent in reconnaissance and ground attack roles. In 1982, it was equipped with Harriers, which it flew during multiple campaigns until being stood down in 2010. It was re-activated in the Tactical Weapons role flying the Hawk T2 from Valley later the same year.

Ascent is very proud to work with these squadrons - which have rich and unique histories - and we aim to maintain their high standards.

Why Anglesey

Location

There is a lot to discover on Anglesey, with its rich heritage and culture, Jurassic landscapes and vast array of flora and fauna. Much of its coastline is designated an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty and its sense of place in the Welsh culture is clear to see and hear, with the Welsh language being widely used on the island, along with local foods, crafts and tales of myths and legends.

The island is suited to many outdoor pursuits and RAF Valley is only a 45 min drive from Snowdonia National Park. Many local villages have quaint cafes and restaurants and if you are pining for city life then Chester is only a 90 min drive away. This old Roman city founded as a fortress in the 1st Century is steeped in history and known for its shopping district, theatres and restaurants.

If you'd prefer to stay closer to home, RAF Valley is situated next to a two mile, practically secluded, sandy beach. Ideal for a quick lunch break, a morning swim or an evening stroll after work.

Family

There are fantastic opportunities for family life on and off the island. Ascent's work/life balance is second to none, with all the benefits of flying in a demanding environment, without the hassle of military duties and responsibilities and with a settled working pattern. This allows ample time to focus on what truly matters in life.

With incredible places to live, our instructors either buy or rent locally, or commute from as far away as Chester.

For those of us with children, there are some fantastic schools that teach a wide variety of subjects. Ascent also offers a school fee allowance for families who wish to send their children to private schools in North Wales.

"The Island is suited to many outdoor pursuits and RAF Valley is only a 45 min drive from Snowdonia National Park."



Instructors' views

FJT QSFI

“After an earlier than planned retirement from the airline sector, a return to my military roots has been an unexpected delight. Whilst a great many things have changed in the 25 years since I left RAF Valley, the DNA of the trainee fighter pilots remains the same.

Whether it's supporting training in the classroom, in one of the eight flight sim training devices, or in the cockpit, the days of cardboard cut outs and OHPs have been exchanged for the latest available tech, which will soon include augmented reality, fully immersive simulation. True, there are challenges delivering pilots to the frontline, but there's also a fantastic team at Ascent encouraging you to innovate and help deliver to our military partner, the best product we can, on time and within budget.

I work a very flexible routine, sometimes from home, sometimes from the office and even from the Starbucks on camp! I needed time off for hospital treatment shortly after I joined the company. The 'No history' group medical cover not only paid for my treatment hassle free and in full, but it meant I could plan my time away from work, rather than submit to the hit and miss NHS alternative. I was back at work within a couple of weeks rather than months; fixed rather than broken. When you need it, it's great to know it's there.

The infrastructure on the island has improved enormously since the 90s. With the billiard table smooth North Wales expressway, Chester is now only 90 mins away and if you like the odd sausage and egg muffin for breakfast, you no longer need to travel to Llandudno Junction to get one! Come check us out and if, like me, you choose to join the team, the welcome will be as warm as ever.



BFT Chief Pilot

“RAF Valley has completely changed since I was last here as a Military Instructor at the turn of the Millennium; there is even a Starbucks on the base!

The area has also completely changed, with a much better infrastructure and travel network enabling better and quicker access. The family are happy and settled in their new home, which is a stone's throw from the beach, but also close enough to the A55 to make 'nipping' into Chester a breeze.

Training the Service's future 5th Gen Fighter Pilots is a real honour and working alongside our military partner is an exceptional opportunity to continue doing everything that I loved about my previous career.

The Texan T1 is easy to fly, but challenging to fly well. It provides an amazing platform to catapult our trainees onto the Hawk T2. The syllabus is so diverse I find myself flying a range of disciplines throughout the week. Whether I'm teaching Elementary Fighter Manoeuvres or practising Strafe attacks in the Lake District, I love my job.



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