



The Ridgeway School
& Sixth Form College

CAREERS NEWSLETTER

This newsletter is a collation of all the opportunities we have heard about from employers and universities. Please use the links included to read more information and apply to anything you are interested in. Links are underlined.

OPPORTUNITIES

Welcome back! We hope you had a fantastic summer. We're sure you're all feeling refreshed and ready for term 1.

If this is your first time receiving this newsletter, it will arrive in your inbox once a week and will include lots of exciting opportunities that you can sign up for. This is your opportunity to take responsibility for your future. The more you sign up to, the more you will learn. The more you learn, the more of an informed choice you can make about your future.



Using the Springpod platform, you can now filter to see programmes that allow you to take part in person experiences after you have completed virtual placements. They are calling this "Virtual - to - Reality". View the current opportunities here. More will be added throughout the year.



Springpod have also launched a range of one hour courses that help you to learn about different types of qualifications and programmes. Register here; Apprenticeships, T Levels and Higher Technical Qualifications (including BTecs).



Did you know that every year, there is a published list of the Top 100 Apprenticeship Employers and Top 50 SME Apprenticeship Employers? You can watch the recording of the televised programme and find out more here.



Can you build and manage a thriving city, ensuring a sustainable energy future until the year 2050? Play the new EnergyTown game to navigate the delicate balance between money, energy, residents' happiness, and sustainability and become an energy expert, a mechanical whizz, or even the hero your city needs!



Personal Statements are changing. If you're applying to university for September 2026 (or future years) entry, this will impact you and your university application. You can read more here.

JOB OF THE WEEK



Ophthalmologist

Ophthalmologists are doctors who care for patients with eye conditions. They diagnose, treat and prevent disorders of the eyes and visual system, using medical and surgical skills.

Watch the video to learn more about working hours, salary and qualifications needed.

LABOUR MARKET INFORMATION FACT

UCAS data shows 316,850 UK 18-year-olds have applied to university this year – an increase of 0.7% from 2023 and the second highest on record.

This puts the application rate for UK 18-year-olds at 41.3%, down from 41.5% in 2023, but up from 38.2% in 2019. Source

OPPORTUNITIES



Young Animator of the Year Competition is open (deadline 16th September 2024) - The YAY UK competition is here to discover and celebrate the best young animators in the UK, aged 11-18. This year's theme for the animation is the word 'GROWTH' and prizes include exclusive tours of some of the UK's top animation studios!



From High School to Uni's student guide is designed to be your ultimate companion to help you transition to university. We understand the challenges you face, from not knowing what to pack, to how to get organised preparing for university, or even how to create a budget to help you plan and manage your finances.



UCAS is removing the application fee for students in receipt of free school meals, making it easier for young people experiencing acute financial hardship to access higher education. For those applying for 2025 entry and beyond, teachers and advisers will verify eligible students through the adviser portal, and these students will then no longer be required to pay the fee on completion of their UCAS application. [Read more here.](#)



Have you heard about the Speakers for Schools online book club? It's a FREE after-school live online book club sessions that happen half-termly at 5pm on Thursdays. Together, you will explore brilliant reading recommendations linked by a shared theme each term - like Spine-Tingling Spooky Stories and Thrillers; Heart-Warming Relationship-Focused Reads; Thought-Provoking, Imagination-Expanding Sci-Fi and Fantasy. [Sign up here.](#)



If an online book club isn't for you, you can check out Speakers for School's on demand inspirational webinars. From industry spotlights, help with writing a CV to topical talks, there is something for everyone. [Watch here.](#)

EMPLOYER SPOTLIGHT

"Our people are the foundation of our success, and our greatest asset. They drive our vision and embody our values. Our people are what separate us from the competition. And we never lose sight of this. We've developed our Future Talent community around you - the next generation of Built Environment professionals."

Read more about [Ridge & Partners LLP here.](#)

UNI SPOTLIGHT

University of Liverpool climbed 5 places in the most recent [complete university guide ranking.](#)

"Voted the fourth friendliest city in the world by Rough Guides, Liverpool is a wonderfully welcoming place. We share and shape the city's spirit - opening our doors to learners from all walks of life."

Read more about [University of Liverpool here.](#)