



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

National Storytelling Week will be taking place from Saturday 1 February to Sunday 9 February. This fantastic annual event is a joyful celebration of the power of sharing stories. Stories teach us about the world; they allow us to step into someone else's shoes and feel empathy; they help us to relax and escape and they can help develop essential literacy skills. The theme for National Storytelling Week 2025 is 'Reimagine your world'.



To celebrate the week, National Literacy Trust have organised a range of online writing workshops. The stories in the events are aimed at younger students but they offer the chance to hear from authors so may still be useful for you to learn more about their careers - there may be the opportunity to ask questions. You can find out more here: Tojá Okogwu - 3rd Feb, Steven Camden - 4th Feb, Joseph Coelho - 6th Feb

If you are an avid writer or illustrator, here are some writing competitions that may be of interest:



The Young Cartoonist Awards 2024 are now open to anyone under the age of 30 who is resident in the UK. We are accepting submissions of pocket (gag) cartoons, political cartoons and short strip cartoons. We are looking for a wide range of cartoonists from different regions within the UK, and with different backgrounds.



The Chaucer Heritage Trust has launched its eighth annual writing competition for schools inspired by the works of Geoffrey Chaucer, considered by many England's greatest medieval poet. The special theme of the competition this year is 'Surprise, Surprise!'.



The theme for the Orwell Youth Prize 2025 is 'Freedom is...' Write about what freedom means to you, in any form you choose, and get personalised feedback and the chance to win a cash prize and books for you and your school.

JOB OF THE WEEK



Writer

A writer is a person who uses written words in different writing styles, genres and techniques to communicate ideas, to inspire feelings and emotions, or to entertain. This could be a play, book, song, article or essay.

Watch the video to learn more about how much you could earn, working hours and pathways into the industry.

LABOUR MARKET INFORMATION FACT

The writing & journalism sector has changed dramatically in the last decade, with the rise of the internet, tech and social media changing the daily flow of newspaper circulations. The number of advertised journalism jobs increased by 79% over from 2019-2022.

Source

OPPORTUNITIES



Returning for the 13th time, the [Grierson DocLab: New Entrants](#) is for UK-based 18-25 year olds with a passion for documentary and factual TV who are new entrants to the industry. The programme aims to equip up to 12 successful trainees with the knowledge, connections and work experience to launch their doc careers. There is a [webinar](#) to find out more taking place Wednesday 22 January. If you are not yet 18 but interested in working in the TV industry, this is definitely an opportunity to remember for when you do reach Year 13 and turn 18!



The [Sixth Formers' Guide to Degree Apprenticeships](#) is the new A-Z guide to degree apprenticeship employers in the UK. Produced in partnership with The Careers & Enterprise Company and the Department for Education, the guide explains how degree apprenticeships offer a work-led, debt-free route to a university degree and a graduate job.



Springpod have opened applications for these amazing in person work experience opportunities for [Year 10](#) and [Year 12](#) with the Civil Aviation Authority. Applications close on February 28th.



urfuture helps young people get hired in their dream career based on their personality. Just like how Netflix replaced Blockbuster and Uber changed Transport, urfuture is on a mission to create a fresh approach for young people engaging with jobs. You can [read more about how the platform works here](#).

If you're in Year 10 or 11, you may have heard of T Levels but have questions about what they are or how they work. A T Level takes 2 years and gives you a mix of learning in the classroom and a minimum 9 week placement with an employer. This means you'll learn what a real career is like while you study. If you want to find out more, you can [take part in this short course](#) to help you decide if it's the right pathway for you.



You can also find a short course on [Apprenticeships](#) and [Higher Technical Qualifications](#).

EMPLOYER SPOTLIGHT

"Bloomsbury is a place for ambitious, driven and passionate people to flourish. As part of our ongoing commitment to [diversity, equity and inclusion](#), we are delighted to offer the Publishing Assistant Apprenticeship. Each apprenticeship is 15 months long, with the majority of Publishing Assistant Apprentices going on to secure roles within the industry." Read more about [Bloomsbury Careers here](#).

UNI SPOTLIGHT

"Being a student at UCL is about so much more than just acquiring knowledge. Studying here gives you the opportunity to realise your potential as an individual. With more than 400 undergraduate degree programmes and 42,000 students from 150 different countries, we're London's truly global university."

Read more about [University College London here](#).