



The Ridgeway School  
& Sixth Form College

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# 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


### IT'S NATIONAL APPRENTICESHIP WEEK!


**NATIONAL  
APPRENTICESHIP  
WEEK 2026**

This week is dedicated to celebrating all things apprenticeships. During this week, you will find lots of opportunities to learn more about apprenticeships including where to find them, how to apply to them and top tips from employers and current apprentices. You can view lots of events here.

 Meet David from South London, he moved to the UK from Romania at the age of eight and did not speak English when he arrived. David successfully secured a Level 4 project management apprenticeship with Jellyfish. In this video, David talks about why he chose an apprenticeship, what his job involves, the role of AI in modern workplaces, misconceptions about Gen Z and why school is about more than just academic knowledge.

 Explore 1,600+ Higher and Degree apprenticeships in the January 2026 edition of the Higher & Degree Vacancy listing. Discover vacancy details from over 65+ employers, including vacancy locations, salary information and direct application links.

 All About T Levels | Thurs 26th Feb - 6-7pm | On this call we'll tell you how T levels work, how we at Lloyds support students with extended work experience and you'll hear from apprentices at Lloyds joining us through the T level route.

 Understanding T Levels: The Industry Placement Webinar | Mon 2nd March - 3:30pm-4:15pm | The rise in popularity has been matched by the increase in employers opening their doors and designing T Level Industry Placements that support students to develop their skills, and provide crucial opportunities to apply their learning in a real workplace. Join this webinar to hear about Industry Placements from Suzanne Chambers of the T Level Delivery Division at the Department for Education.

## JOB OF THE WEEK



Forensic  
Linguist

A forensic linguist is a language expert who applies linguistic knowledge to legal contexts, acting as a detective to analyse written or spoken evidence. They investigate cases by examining idiolect (unique writing style), authorship of threats or notes, and contractual language, working with law enforcement and legal teams to uncover the truth.

## LABOUR MARKET INFORMATION FACT

As employers 'top up' the salary of an apprentice beyond National Minimum Wage, the average apprentice salary in the United Kingdom is £27,721 per year or £14.22 per hour. This varies across different apprenticeships and regions.

Source

## OPPORTUNITIES



Rapid Read: Apprenticeship levels explained.

With apprenticeship levels ranging from level 2 (foundation and intermediate) through to level 7 (master's level) and lots of recent changes, this updated Rapid Read will help you understand the different levels and which might be right for you.



Get Career Confident has brought together a range of virtual work experience opportunities available to young people. They do not run virtual work experience placements, they research and list established organisations offering placements.



Access the brand new ERIC Library from Monday 9<sup>th</sup> Feb 2026. "A library of bite-sized creative careers talks designed for school, college or university students. Each talk is 10-15 minutes long, made for young people aged 14-21. The library will be available all year round, with new talks added regularly."



Did you know that Not Going To Uni have a podcast? It is hosted by a current apprentice, Ethan. On the podcast, he interviews other apprentices who give you advice and valuable tips. The aim of the podcast is to help you kickstart your career with confidence.



If you'd prefer to read than listen, the Not Going To Uni case studies are another great way to learn from current apprentices and take inspiration from their journeys.



Heard of an apprenticeship but not sure what it's all about? The UCAS Parent and guardian guide to apprenticeships shares what you need to know and practical tips for supporting someone who might be thinking about an apprenticeship.



This apprenticeship glossary will help you to understand any words that you haven't come across before. There are also a lot of myths about apprenticeships. This myth buster will support you to realise the facts from the fiction!



From Quizzes to Arcade games, this website has a range of interactive activities to help you learn more about apprenticeships.

## EMPLOYER SPOTLIGHT

"Start your career with impact and purpose. At Nationwide, you will build a meaningful career and help shape banking to be fairer, more rewarding, and for the good of society. With structured development, hands-on experience, and support at every step, you will gain the confidence to start a rewarding career in banking." You can read more about careers at Nationwide here.

## UNI SPOTLIGHT

"Students fall in love with Bristol - a city small enough to remain friendly, but large enough to offer lots of interest and excitement. With our central location, outstanding facilities and active Students' Union, you can enjoy the best of student life. We're ranked 51<sup>st</sup> in the World and 8<sup>th</sup> in the UK." You can read more about the University of Bristol here.