



Headmaster's Weekly Bulletin

26 FEBRUARY 2021

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Introduction

Dear Parents, Carers and Students,

I do hope that you all had the opportunity to avoid Microsoft Teams for at least part of the half term and enjoyed a restful half term.

I would like to wish you a warm welcome back to the second half of the Lent term. I was delighted to see many signs of spring over the weekend from snowdrops, daffodils and crocuses and hearing the birds singing this week. Thank you to those that have sent in your photos and videos to share. Thank you to William A (9C) for sharing his appetising pancakes with crushed Maltesers; Ethan P (7W) for sharing his Karate wellbeing challenge; and Shaurya S (7E) for sharing his creative photos of the snow, to name a few. Please continue to share your wellbeing activities and achievements at communications@reading-school.co.uk.

With the recent announcement from the Prime Minister on Monday, we are increasingly hopeful of reaching some easing of restrictions and there is hope for some normalisation.

Return to School

We recognise that some staff, families and pupils may be anxious about school resuming from Monday 8th March. I would like to take this opportunity to reassure all members of the Reading School community that we are putting in place the necessary measures to mitigate, where possible, risks.

We will continue to stagger start times to keep groups apart as they arrive. In addition, we will continue to stagger breaks.

Please see section below “**All Years – Lent Term 2021**” with details of the return to school shared earlier this week.

We will phase the return of pupils during the first week to facilitate Asymptomatic Covid testing.

Working with our Compliance Officer, Mr Jonathan Hitchinson and Union representatives we will review risk assessments for both the Day School and Boarding, and update where necessary. Risk assessments will be approved by the Chair of Governors in advance of 8th March.

I can assure staff, parents and pupils that essential control measures, in line with the updated government guidance, will be in place to minimise Covid-19 transmission on the school site.

As part of these risk mitigation measures, we will be undertaking asymptomatic testing of all staff and pupils.

Boarding Parents

I would like to thank all the members of the Boarding Progression Group for their commitment and input over the past weeks since it became clear that boarding at Reading School would not be allowed to open at the start of term. It was necessary to quickly grasp the financial implications that this closure brought and chase a solution to protect the provision of boarding at Reading School. The group brought together a team of boarding parents, school staff and governors to address the issues and work collaboratively to structure a solution that, with the support of both school and boarding parents, will assure all stakeholders that boarding continues to have a place at the very centre of Reading School's activities going forward.

We will continue to communicate with the Boarding Parent Community separately each Friday.

Finances

The financial impact of the pandemic is now being felt by many institutions and we are not isolated from these constraints. I will be working to set out additional support required in the coming weeks and opportunities for support from the whole school.

I would like to say a special thank you to all our continued supporters especially those who have continued to support the school by committing to monthly, quarterly, or annual gifts, particularly during these unprecedented times. If you wish to pledge your support to the school, please do not hesitate to contact Mrs J Chhokar (Society Manager) at development@reading-school.co.uk.

Reading School remains committed to looking after the welfare of our students and staff. This is our key priority.

Inspiring interview with Old Redingensian

In my [Weekly Bulletin](#) of the 5th February, I shared the brilliant opportunity that School Captain, Daniel N and Vice-Captain, Charles C had to interview, possibly one of our most senior and inspiring Old Redingensians, Alan Johnson (OR 1940-1949), now based in the USA.

I am pleased to share with you the video interview that has been created to allow us to share with pupils and parents and both Mr and Mrs Johnson were thrilled to be able to share with the Redingensians community. Please click the link to view: <https://vimeo.com/514872440/fd4f8940f0>

Intergenerational Poetry and Music making

I am delighted to share the Intergenerational Community Service project, led by Neville I, (Year 13 Community Service Prefect). Supported by the English and Music Departments, Neville co-ordinated several recordings of poems, myths, stories, and music solos, with participants from all years. I have no doubt that Neville has chosen the right career move as an aspiring medic!

The voice recording will be shared with Lakeside Care Home and three other local care homes we have previous relationships with, where the residents and even staff can listen to these recordings which will hopefully make a positive impact and lift spirits in these extremely difficult times.

Reading School pupils have demonstrated coming together even during isolation to help build positivity and hope by connecting with all ages and promoting kindness through creativity.

There is evidence to suggest that musical therapy, reading and poetry workshops help to stimulate and maintain concentration in dementia patients.

I want to thank each one of the students that have contributed to this first edition, and hopefully many more.

Please click the link here to listen: <https://vimeo.com/516892677/e7e5bd65b5>

It has become evident over recent months of the power of the creative arts. Whether you make, create, watch, or listen, the arts help us understand the world around us. Above all they bring us joy, help us form connections, provide us with a sense of community and solace, and sometimes a much-needed opportunity to escape.

Vacancies

Please find below current vacancy. If you know anyone who might be interested, please forward to them:

[Chemistry Advert](#) and [Chemistry Details of the Post](#) deadline 5 March.

British Science Week 2021

The week of 5th-14th March is National Science Week a ten-day celebration of science, technology, engineering and maths and we would like to share with our pupils and wider community those who have been working tirelessly during this pandemic and before. If your mum, dad, guardians or siblings have been working in the field of medicine, science or research please provide us with a photograph and short bio of their role and responsibility and what challenges they have faced during the pandemic and how they overcame this. This will be added to our virtual wall so we can promote science and healthcare during the week of 5th-14th March. Please email your contributions to communications@reading-school.co.uk.

As we work to ensure the safe return of our students please bear with us as we ensure we have all the right measures in place. We look forward to welcoming back our students.

Wishing you a safe weekend.

Mr AM Robson

Headmaster

Excellence

All Years – Lent Term 2021

The Department for Education (DfE) have published updated [operational guidance for schools](#) in preparation for full reopening from Monday 8th March 2021. We will therefore, at all times, be guided by the advice in the current government publications.

The following is a summary of the key elements of the guidance and details of operations at Reading School. For the short 'at a glance' version of this information, please see the following two documents, with more comprehensive information about the full schedule at **Schedule for the Return to School** section below.

[At A Glance – March Return](#)

[At A Glance – Afternoons March](#)

Schedule for the Return to School from 8th March

The schedule for week beginning 8th and 15th March is provided in the link below. This provides clarity on the arrangements for testing, lessons and afternoon sessions for all year groups. Please ensure that you read this carefully as it is vital that all students attend the correct testing sessions and that all parents are aware when their child is going to be on site.

[Schedule for the Return to School](#)

Year 11 and Year 13 only - Mock Examinations

Links to the Year 11 and 13 mock examination schedules are included below. These links are slightly updated versions of our draft mock exam schedules for Year 11 and 13 sent out earlier this week. Further changes may be made and a final schedule, including start times and all rooming will be distributed to Year 11 and 13 students in the week commencing March 8th. Over the next few weeks staff will be reminding students of the key areas of the specification that will be included in these assessments.

Please note that during exam periods, students in Year 11 and 13 **only need to attend school for their examinations.**

[Mock Examination Timetable – Year 11](#)

[Mock Examination Timetable – Year 13](#)

This should help students to plan the coming weeks and hopefully relieve some stress and help create a clear plan ahead.

Year 12 only - National Citizen Service (NCS)

National Citizen Service (NCS) is a programme that allows you to get back out into the world with your mates, get some skills, make even more friends AND make a difference by getting your communities back on their feet.

If your son is interested in the NCS summer residential programme where further details were shared in this week's PSHE session, please see attached additional information.

Please see click the link [here](#) for more information and for the [Parent Information Pack](#).

If you have any further questions, please do not hesitate to contact Miss Stratford astratford@reading-school.co.uk

Reports and Parents' Evenings

In order to provide enough time for teachers to mark the Year 11 & 13 interim assessments, and publish reports to parents ahead of Parents' Evenings, please see the following amendments. Please see the calendar on the School website for further updates, where dates regarding other year groups will be updated in due course. Thank you for your patience as we continue to adapt to changing circumstances.

	Report Publication	Parents' Evening
Year 11	w/c 1st March	11th March
Year 12	Before Easter	25th February
Year 13	w/c 8th March	25th March
Year 8	Before Easter	-

Year 8 only

Please see link to the outline information concerning the GCSE options process. We urge all Year 8s to focus on continuing to set themselves high standards in all subjects, as they are still only 4 terms into their time at Reading School, and Year 8 is a crucial year for setting solid foundations for what is to come. Please contact your son's form tutor if you have any queries which are not answered in the guide.

[Year 8 Options Guide](#)

Duke of Edinburgh Award – Congratulations!

With circumstances beyond our control, the impact of the COVID-19 outbreak has influenced the ability for Reading School students to complete their [Duke of Edinburgh Awards](#), and this also means it will take much longer than usual to complete the award. However, young people across the UK have worked hard to complete their Skills, Volunteering and Physical sections, and are continuing to do so in these unprecedented times. The Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme want to recognise these young people for their amazing efforts and achievements even if social distancing, personal circumstances, or other challenges mean it is not possible to complete the Qualifying expedition just yet!

The Certificate of Achievement is a formal recognition, by the Duke of Edinburgh, of their dedication to their programmes and everything they have achieved through these three sections, as well as their resilience in coping with ongoing uncertainty. Everyone who receives the certificate will go on to complete their Expedition later in the year and will then achieve their Duke of Edinburgh Award.

Students at Reading School have been working hard to complete these three sections and we are pleased to congratulate the following students for achieving their 'Certificates of Achievement' at Bronze or Silver level. Many others are well on their way to completing their sections and we look forward to more congratulations in the coming weeks.

Bronze Certificate of Achievement to (Year 10)

Kamran S, Adam B, Adityaraj S, Joshua G, Oliver C, Alessandro M, Hal R, Yash R, Thomas L, Advay C, Oscar S-T, Abu B, Aslan H, Darsh K and Rishi M.

Silver Certificate of Achievement to (Year 13)

Henry F, Aden N and JeeHwan A.

Special thanks to Miss M Hooker (Teacher of Mathematics, Second in Dept and DofE Lead) for supporting the DofE students.

I am particularly impressed with these young men who have managed to demonstrate commitment and dedication in building character through selecting alternative activities under the current restrictions. Congratulations to you all and I look forward to hearing of more successes in the coming weeks.

UKMT British Mathematical Olympiad Round 2

The British Mathematical Olympiad Round 2 follows Round 1. It is a 3.5-hour competition consisting of four very challenging problems requiring full written solutions.

A huge congratulations to the success of Sida Li (11W); who not only was the sole qualifier for the British Maths Olympiad Round 2 throughout all the school, but also claimed a Distinction award for his efforts. This was a 3½ hour challenge which contains intense mathematical proofs for candidates to establish and is normally undertaken by our A-level students in the sixth form.

This is truly a commendable accomplishment for Sida, and Mr B Owen would like to pass on the compliments of the Maths Department by saying "Well done Sida!".

I would like to thank Mr B Owen (Teacher of Mathematics) for leading on the UKMT Challenges.

An outstanding achievement Sida and I congratulate you on this success. These competitions are designed to grow and stretch our students beyond the curriculum and I'm continuously impressed by your tenacity and perseverance in excelling in everything you attempt.

Deci-Tour de France 2021

Well done to all those that are taking part in the various Strava Challenges, led by Mr P Stromdale and Mr Steadman. Congratulations to this week's leaders (as of Monday) in the Deci-Tour de France.

James B (809km), George L (654km), Seth P (650km) Oliver C (366km), Mr P Stromdale (260km), John S (213km), Ben S-R (170km), Tom S-R (165km), Joseph P (130km), Sam P (88km), Harry P (35km), William M (12km), Adityaraj S (11km), Felix P (8km) and Matthew G (6km).

Keep going - you are all doing incredibly well!

Inspire Lectures

In partnership with Speakers for Schools here is next week's full [Live Broadcasts Schedule](#). Please encourage your son to tune into these opportunities!

Week commencing Monday 1 March 2021

Mon 1st March 10-11am

Andrew Bernard, Director, National Careers Week & Director, Innovative Enterprise for KS4-5

[LINK TO JOIN](#)

This week is National Careers Week (1st-6th March), and we are delighted to welcome Andrew 'Bernie' Bernard, a TEDx Speaker, Director of Innovative Enterprise and National Careers Week, Entrepreneur and Fellow of Professional Speaking Association. Bernie has, since 2006, worked with schools, businesses, charities, universities and colleges to help over 145,000 young people bring the future to life through enterprise and careers workshops. Bernie will be sharing his story about becoming an accidental entrepreneur and will be answering your questions.

Mon 1st March 2-3pm

Nick Ross, Broadcaster and Former Crimewatch Presenter

[LINK TO JOIN](#)

Nick was for many years one of Britain's most-trusted broadcasters and is now a writer, non-executive director, conference moderator and campaigner for community safety and evidence-based public policy. He became a household name in the UK launching breakfast TV, Watchdog and Crimewatch. He has written and directed award-winning documentaries. He retired from full-time broadcasting in 2010 to focus on conferences and voluntary work but still contributes to radio and TV. Nick will be speaking about his career journey, crime and is looking forward to answering your questions.

Mon 1st March 5-6pm

Experience Nursing

Patrick Nyarumbu, Director of Strategy, People and Partnerships, Birmingham and Solihull Mental Health NHS Foundation Trust

[LINK TO JOIN](#)

Speakers for Schools are delighted to welcome Executive Director of Strategy, People & Partnerships, Birmingham & Solihull Mental Health NHS Foundation Trust, Patrick Nyarumbu for an Experience Nursing Broadcast. Students will have the opportunity to hear from Patrick on their career to date, the skills and qualities needed for a career in Nursing as well as submit their own questions for Patrick.

Tues 2nd March 2-3pm

Pavita Cooper, Founder, More Difference

[LINK TO JOIN](#)

Pavita is the founder of More Difference, a talent and career insight business that works with organisations and individuals to accelerate talent, Pavita is recognised as a leading talent and diversity expert; she has over 25 years' experience as an executive talent leader across a range of multi-sector global blue-chip organisations, including Shell, Barclays and Lloyds Banking Group. Pavita has acted as an advisor to CEOs, executive teams and business leaders across sectors that include financial services, energy, consumer, professional services and luxury goods. Pavita will be speaking about her career journey and is looking forward to answering your questions.

Tues 2nd March 5-6pm

Ella d'Amato, Chief Commercial & Partner Officer, Not on the High Street

[LINK TO JOIN](#)

Join us for a broadcast with Ella d'Amato, Chief Commercial & Marketing Officer, Not on the High Street. Ella was previously the CEO of Drum and is now responsible for making Not on the High Street the most attractive place to work, partner with and buy from. Ella will be talking about what makes a great product and will be providing advice for those who are interested in pursuing a career in marketing.

Wed 3rd March 10-11am

Kajal Odedra, UK Director, Change.org

[LINK TO JOIN](#)

We are going to be joined by Kajal Odedra, a writer and activist, with over 13 years' experience in the campaigns sector. As Executive Director for Change.org UK, the largest petition platform, she has grown the platform to over 19 million users in the UK. After identifying a diversity problem in the UK campaigns sector, she founded the People of Colour in Campaigns network. She is on the board for Save The Children UK and Ada's List. Kajal will be sharing her career journey and highlights and is looking forward to answering your questions.

Wed 3rd March 5-6pm

Jimmy Worrall, Founder and CEO, Leaders in Sport for KS 4-5/ S4-6

[LINK TO JOIN](#)

Join us for a live Broadcast with James Worrall, Founder and CEO of Leaders in Sport, a London based internationally focused conference, training and intelligence service for industry leaders in sport. Prior to starting Leaders James held various senior roles in sport with ENIC (owners of Vicenza, Basel, AEK Athens, Slavia Prague), Bristol City FC and the Football Association. James will be sharing his experiences with Leaders in Sport and discussing the importance of networking and building relationships.

Thurs 4th March 2-3pm

Mandisa Greene, President, Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons

[LINK TO JOIN](#)

Join us here for a broadcast with Mandisa Greene, President of the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons. She started her career working in a small animal practice in Scotland but moved to the West Midlands where she has worked both in general and emergency small animal practice. Mandisa is passionate about increasing diversity in Veterinary Medicine. Mandisa has worked for Harper Adams University as a lecturer in Veterinary Sciences educating both students and qualified veterinary nurses. Mandisa will be presenting on her journey to becoming President of RCVS and will be answering your questions about veterinary science and medicine.

Thurs 4th March 5-6pm

Nalan Dodgson, Director of Talent Acquisition, Burberry

[LINK TO JOIN](#)

We are looking forward to welcoming Nalan Dodgson, Director of Talent Acquisition at Burberry. Before working at Burberry, Nalan was the Resourcing Manager at Harrods. Nalan will be sharing insights into her career and will be providing advice on how to stand out during the recruitment process.

Fri 5th March 10-11am

Katie Vanneck Smith, Co-Founder and Publisher, Tortoise Media

[LINK TO JOIN](#)

We are looking forward to hosting a broadcast with Katie Vanneck-Smith, Co-founder and Publisher at Tortoise. Katie was President of The Wall Street Journal & Dow Jones, where she led the company to over 3m subscribers. She has previously worked at the Telegraph Media Group and The Times, where, as Chief Marketing Officer, she was the architect of the newspaper's early move to paid digital subscriptions. She created the UK's first news membership brand, Times+. She was named Pioneer of the Year at the British Media Awards. Katie will be sharing her pathway to success and reflecting on what she has learnt during her career. Katie will also be answering your questions.

How to join the live broadcasts

- Join 10 minutes before the broadcast to be ready.
- You can join without needing an account – [Watch how here](#)

Live broadcasts library and more

- Watch pre-recorded broadcasts from our library [here](#)
- Please see our [Schools Guide here.](#)

Competitions

Junior Bake Off: Open for Applications 2021



The Casting Researcher at Love Productions - the company behind The Great British Bake Off, The Great British Sewing Bee and The Great Pottery Throw Down was in touch this week to share that applications have now opened for the 7th series of Junior Bake Off.

The Junior Bake off is a Channel 4 programme that celebrates the culinary talent and ambition of the younger generation in Britain.

Calling all baking enthusiasts aged **between 9 and 15 years old**.

Filming would take place from July 2021, but applications close on Sunday 28th March 2021.

Interested bakers can apply online at - WWW.APPLYFORJUNIORBAKEOFF.CO.UK.

Any enquiries should be directed to:

applyforjuniorbakeoff@loveproductions.co.uk

Next Generation Economics Competition

The Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (FCDO) invites UK students in **Year 10 to Year 13** or equivalent to write about big economic challenges by 25 April 2021. Thank you to Mr D Mead (OR 2015) for sharing this opportunity with us.

Write about the biggest economic challenges facing your generation between 15 February and 25 April 2021 to enter our Next Generation Economics Competition. You could win £250.

Click the link here for more details: [Next Generation Economics Competition](#)

We strongly encourage participation from **Year 10 to Year 13 economics students**.

2021 TSL Sustainability Challenge

Theme: Protecting biodiversity

The Sustainability Challenge provides a platform for voices to be heard and recognises and rewards the sustainability ideas, actions, and leadership of participants of all ages.

The overall winner will be awarded the 2021 Challenge Trophy and a cash prize of £500 or equivalent. The winning entry for each age category will receive a special e-medal and gift.

The winners will be announced on 1 May 2021, as part of the lead-up to the next Conference of Parties (COP 15) of the UN Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD). The winning videos will be sent to UN Secretary General António Guterres and other leaders in the international community.

- 28 February 2021 Deadline for Challenge video entries
- 9 April 2021 Top entry winners from each age category notified.

Click the link for entry details and more information: [Sustainability Challenge - Trust for Sustainable Living](#)

We encourage participation from **Biology and Geography students**.

Historical Fiction Competition 2021

[The Historical Association](#) historical fiction competition has gone from strength to strength. Pupils can set their stories in any period or place in the past, so the story can fit in with and extend any historical topic you may be studying. Click here for more details: [The Historical Association](#). A recommended minimum story length of 400 words with a maximum word length of 3500 words.

Deadline: Friday 28 May 2021

Prize winners will be notified in writing in September/October 2021. All queries should be addressed to Olivia Dent on olivia.dent@history.org.uk

The results of the competition will be posted on the Historical Association website: www.history.org.uk

We encourage participation from **Year 7 to Year 13 History students**.

The Big Bang Competition

[The Big Bang Competition 2021](#) – showcase your STEM projects. This will take place online this year. The Competition is open to all year groups 7 to 13. They can enter any project work they have completed, be it at school or through a STEM club or at home! Deadline: March 2021.

Book Week 2021

The aim of our annual School Book Week is to inspire an enjoyment of books and reading throughout the whole school. It supports the school core values of Excellence, Integrity, Community and Leadership by engaging pupils' intellectual curiosity and enabling opportunities for pupils to work together for the benefit of the whole school. Book Week this year coincides with World Book Day on Thursday the 4th of March. This is our 8th Book Week and is kindly funded by the Old Redingensians Association.

Book Week began this week with a short story competition and a virtual talk with author Chris Bradford on Friday 26th of February.

Activities next week include:

Read for Good Readathon

15th February to 15th March

Book Club author talk with Holly Webb

Tuesday 2nd March at 2.30pm

Drop Everything and Read

Thursday 4th March at 1.30pm to 2.30pm

D.E.A.R. Photo Competition

Thursday 4th March - deadline Friday 5th March

World Book Day Book Quiz

Thursday 4th March at 2.30pm

To keep up to date with all the activities, pupils can join a special Book Week 2021 Team, using the join code: 9eedglm

There are lots of activities and book recommendations available from the World Book Day website <https://www.worldbookday.com/>

The £1 World Book Day vouchers will be distributed when pupils return to school. The expiration date has been extended to give pupils more opportunity to use them in their local bookshops. For more information about the vouchers, please see the World Book Day website,

Reading School's Read for Good Readathon 2021



Reading School has a tradition of running an annual sponsored read for Book Week and we are delighted to announce that this year the 'Read for Good Readathon' will run from **15th February to 15th March**. It is open to all years and those in Years 7, 8 and 9 can also try their brand new digital '[Track My Read](#)' feature.

The Read for Good Readathon helps to raise money for children in hospital. The school also benefits by receiving vouchers for new books. This is a great activity for those who love reading and those who are looking for some extra motivation.

Please click the [Readathon Parent letter](#) for more information. Read for Good have produced a short film which you can access [here](#). There is also a Team that pupils can join to find out more. The 'Read for Good Readathon Team' code is se870gc.



Integrity

Safeguarding and Wellbeing

As spring arrives, notice the signs of spring on your daily walk: [The 7 signs of spring every child \(and adult\) should know | National Trust](#)

As the end is (seemingly) in sight, you might be facing some challenges at home with your family's mental health. Use the guidance in the [Supporting Parents Helpfinder \(youngminds.org.uk\)](#)

Please see below guidance during remote learning.

- [Remote Safeguarding for Students](#) and [Remote Safeguarding for Parents](#)
- [CEOP](#) - Worth being aware that this is where you can refer concerns over online communications or sexual abuse.
- [Childline](#) offers 1:1 support and a guide to staying safe online for adults and children.

If you are concerned about a student, talk to their tutor, Head of House, Mr D McGall (Assistant Head) or Mrs L Ayres (Assistant Head).

Health and support

Please see Berkshire Healthcare's [School Nursing Newsletter](#) (February edition) for Secondary Schools. This covers recent information and signposting from:

- Mental Health and looking after yourself.
- Check to see if your Immunisations are up to date?
- Vitamin D: Are you getting enough?
- School Nurse Support Line

Leadership

Debating Society

The committee will host a debate every Wednesday at 2.30pm via Microsoft Teams. Over the forthcoming weeks, the motions include:

- Wednesday 3rd March- Joint Debate with Queen Anne's School - [Click here to join the meeting](#)
- Wednesday 10th March: THS a more secular society- [Click here to join the meeting](#)
- Wednesday 17th March: THB that we are spending too much on Space Exploration- [Click here to join the meeting](#)
- Wednesday 24th March: THS selective schools- [Click here to join the meeting](#)
- Wednesday 31st March: (Historical Motion) THB that Britain has not been held accountable for its actions during the British Empire- [Click here to join the meeting](#)

All students are encouraged to participate in Debating Society gaining broad, multi-faceted knowledge, increasing confidence, poise and self-esteem and improving critical thinking skills.

Wood Virtual Careers Talk

Interested in a career in engineering?

Wood plc has kindly provided a video of their Virtual Careers Event which consists of a number of engineers talking about their careers, routes into engineering, etc. Spanning multiple disciplines and industries from renewable energy to water treatment.

<https://sft.woodgroup.com/?u=kBxH&p=p6RE&path=/Virtual%20Careers%20Presentation%20-%20Jan%202021.mp4>

Please note, the file may take 10-15 mins to download, and that the period for sending in questions has been extended. Any questions should be sent to communications@reading-school.co.uk so we can field these to Wood plc.

Work Experience opportunities

Students are reminded that when applying for virtual work placements to please ensure you inform your tutor of the details of the opportunity you are applying for, in advance. So, tutors are aware that a personal reference may be required.

- [Virtual Work Experience](#) and Exploring the Veterinary Profession from University of Nottingham via Future Learn.

Virtual Work Experience opportunities available via **Speakers for School** for students aged 14-19 years old include:

- [Build Yourself with Wates – Sustainability Insight Day](#) 16 – 19 year olds interested in a career in engineering and sustainability. Date: 6 April 2021, 10am – 3pm. Deadline: 6 March 2021
- [Sustainability and achieving Net-Zero by 2030 with SSE](#) 14 – 19 year olds interested in sustainability and city planning. Date: 6 April 2021. Application Deadline: 6 March 2021
- [Green Skills with GTR \(Govia Thameslink Railway\)](#) 14 – 19 year olds interested in climate change and the railway industry. Date: 7 April 2021, 10am – 1pm. Deadline: 6 March 2021
- [Being Green Insight Day – Thames Water](#) 14 – 19 year olds interested in financial inclusion and the environment. Date: 7 April 2021, 10am – 1pm. Application Deadline: 7 March 2021

- [Green Skills in the Construction and Engineering Industry](#) - interested in the 'green' plans for the construction and engineering industry. Dates: 6 - 9 April 2021. Deadline 7 March 2021
- [Santander and sustainability](#) 14 – 19 year olds interested in financial inclusion and the environment. Date: 8 April 2021, 10am – 3pm. Application Deadline: 8 March 2021
- [Anglian Water 'App in a Day' Insight Day](#) Year 10 students interested in a career in creative design, IT and innovation. Date: 7 April 2021. Application Deadline: 8 March 2021
- [Anglian Water 'App in a Day' Insight Day](#) Year 12 students interested in a career in creative design, IT and innovation. Date: 9 April 2021. Application Deadline: 10 March 2021
- [British Airways Virtual Insight Day - Sustainability Workshop](#) Year 14 - 19 year olds keen to find out more about a career in the airline industry. Dates: 7th April 2021. Deadline: 15 March 2021
- [Engineering Green Skills Insight Day - Sir Robert McAlpine](#) 14-19 year olds interested in sustainability and the engineering sector. Date: 9 April 2021. Deadline: 12 March 2021
- [Architecture + Design Work Placement – Carmody Groarke](#) 16-19 year olds who are keen to gain insight into architecture and design. Dates: 12 - 16 April. Deadline: 12 March 2021
- [STEM Challenge VWEX with Johnson Matthey](#) Year 14 - 19 year olds keen to find out more about a career in sustainable technology. Dates: 6 - 8 April 2021. Deadline: 12 March 2021
- [Green Careers in the Build Environment – Morgan Sindall](#) 16 - 19 year olds interested in a career in environmentally friendly engineering. 6 – 9 April 2021. Deadline: 15 March 2021
- [British Airways Virtual Insight Day - Sustainability Workshop](#) Year 14 - 19 year olds keen to find out more about a career in the airline industry. Dates: 7 April 2021. Deadline: 15 March 2021
- [Insight Day for Careers in Music – British Army](#) Year 15 – 19 year olds interested in a vocation with music performance at its heart. Dates: 14th April 2021(10am -12am) Application Deadline: 14th March 2021
- [Green jobs in the construction industry - Graham Construction](#) Year 14 - 19 year olds interested in a career in the construction industry. Dates: 8th April 2021. Application Deadline: 19th March 2021
- [Keeping Nottingham Green through sustainable travel](#) Year 15 - 19 year olds considering a career in government. Dates: 14th April 2021. Application Deadline: 7th April 2021

Apprenticeships

- [Situational Judgement Test \(SJT\)](#) which is now live with Virgin Media and can be practiced as many times as students wish.
- [Heathrow](#) have 6 positions for their 4 year Engineering Apprenticeship Programme. Deadline is 28th February.
- [Insight to VMware](#) - Business & Technology Event 11th March, 4:30pm – Year 12 and 13s only. 100 spaces only book asap if interested in career in Technology.
- [PWC Flying Start degree](#). This combines work and university and is an excellent opportunity.
- [Deloitte – Festival of Opportunity](#) explore opportunities from wherever you are, a month-long online festival features a line-up of inspiring, live [interactive events](#).
- [KPMG apprenticeship programmes](#) - for information and to apply for apprenticeship/school leaver schemes at KPMG in audit and software engineering

Careers and additional opportunities

Students are reminded that careers and additional opportunities are posted to Teams. An example of these are set out below:

- [Oxford and Cambridge Virtual Student Conference 2021](#) - live from 23-25 March 2021

The Oxford and Cambridge Virtual Student Conference are aimed at Year 12 students (or equivalent) who are studying for their A Levels/IB/Scottish Highers (or equivalent) in the UK and are beginning to consider their options for study beyond sixth form.

- [Virtual Hospital Work Experience from Education Projects](#) – 15 February 2021 from 10am to 4pm
- [PWC - employability skills toolkit](#) – See learning resources for students aged 13-18, PwC's employability skills toolkit. Covering topics such as technology, wellbeing and how to manage money provides lessons which can be delivered at home with additional guidance from parents and carers provided.
- [University of Leicester](#) - Short introductory videos explaining what studying a wide variety of subjects is like at University of Leicester. This could help with subject choice.
- [Lancaster University-](#) Series of webinars and an essay competition for anyone interested in studying Sport Science.
- [Loughborough University](#) – Engineering experience is an annual residential offering Year 12 students an opportunity to visit and stay overnight at one of the UK's leading universities for engineering.
- [University of Nottingham](#) – Series of webinars on offer from law, veterinary medicine, medicine and engineering from March to May.
- [New College of the Humanities](#) – online taster lectures for a whole range of subjects.
- [World Skills UK – Spotlight Talks](#) – Inspiring Careers excellence - Wednesday 24 and Thursday 25 March 2021
- [London Universities Group Roadshow Webinar \(for students outside London\)](#) – 4 March at 6pm
- [R. U. Hacking? 2021 | 24-Hour Student Hackathon](#) - About R. U. Hacking? – 26 & 27 June
R. U. Hacking? (Reading University Hacking) proudly present our third annual 24-hour Student Hackathon at the University of Reading, welcoming students from all over the UK and EU!

Whether you're completely new to programming or are a seasoned hackathon veteran, you are welcome to join us in this fun and collaborative invention marathon! There are lots of prizes to be won so come along and get involved - beginners welcome!

- Interested in careers in Law - Year 12 students looking for work placement and insight opportunities, check out the two schemes available with Slaughter and May at [School students \(slaughterandmay.com\)](#).
- [University of Cambridge Festival](#) takes place from 26 March to 4 April 2021, with a series of free online events and activities for everyone. Please click the link [here](#) for the full programme for the Cambridge Festival now available and open for bookings! With over 300 events it is hard to pick a favourite.

Community

Motivation Webinar

Elevate's free parent webinars available to be watched at this link: <https://get.elevatecoaching.info/uk/replay>. You can also download a summary sheet of the main points [here](#).

Future Webinars by Elevate Coaching

Tuesday 2nd March: Preparing for Assessments in Covid

Tuesday 23rd March: Managing Technology and Distractions

Wellbeing

<https://www.reading-school.co.uk/page/?title=Wellbeing&pid=90>

[NHS every mind matters - covid-19 Staying at home tips](#)

[Princes Trust](#) - Supporting young people through COVID-19, pulling together some of the most helpful online resources for teachers and parents on how to support children and young people through this challenging time. Including the 'i am me' app recently listed as a useful resource for young people which is easily accessible.