

# Reading School

## Careers Bulletin



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Welcome to our Reading School Careers Bulletin where we will share with students and parents information about careers through the Headmaster's Weekly Message, highlighting opportunities available to our students.

### Overview

Our objective is to deliver independent careers advice to our students so that they can make informed choices to achieve their aims and ultimately achieve their ambitions. Advice and guidance is available throughout the year via our Careers Advisor, Clare Desai a fully qualified, experienced careers adviser who holds the QCF Level 6 Qualification in Careers Guidance. Clare has 10 years of experience of working with Students and has spent the last 8 years in Berkshire schools, helping students to achieve their ambitions.

Together with online resources listed over the page as well as an extensive careers section located in the LRC there will be specific advice throughout the academic year relevant to each Key Stage. All years are encouraged to visit the Careers Library, especially when choosing GCSE, A Level options, and Higher Education Courses.

### Focus

- Strong school leadership is crucial to raising the aspirations of all our students, therefore encouraging them to overcome barriers to success and to do what it takes to fulfill their potential.
  - Through Student Leadership Programme
- Provide contacts with employers, mentors and coaches who can inspire pupils with a sense of what they can achieve and help them understand how to make this a reality.
  - Inspire Lectures
  - Reading School Network
- Provide careers advice and guidance both individually at key stages through school whilst also embedding through Student Leadership.
  - Independent Careers advice
- Provide an access to a range of activities to inspire our students
  - Through Careers Convention
  - Employer talks
  - University visits
- Understanding the value of work placements and community service
  - Volunteering with the Future Stories programme
- Online tools to encourage students to think about opportunities available

**22 February 2018**

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Careers advisor  
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**To find out more about Reading School, please visit us on**  
[www.reading-school.co.uk](http://www.reading-school.co.uk)  
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[www.linkedin.com](https://www.linkedin.com/company/reading-school/)

For careers **advice and guidance** or to discuss career pathways you are encouraged to book an appointment with Mrs. Desai on Tuesdays and Thursdays held in school through [rscareers.simplybook](http://rscareers.simplybook)

Appointments are available for students in the following year groups and will ideally be structured termly for the year groups as below:

**Y11, Y12 & Y13 Michaelmas term**  
**Y11 & Y10 Lent term**  
**Y9 & Y8 Summer term**

### Upcoming Events

**Y12 - Work Placement Week**  
**Monday 2 to Friday 6 July 2018**

### Online resources

**Fast Tomato**  
<https://www.fasttomato.com/>

**Higher Ideas**  
[Higher Ideas](http://www.higherideas.com/)

### Careers Topic: Information

#### Year 10 Students

If you are in year 10 and you would like to book an appointment to talk through your career ideas and future options, you may now book appointments to see Mrs. Desai through our simply book link: [Reading Careers Simply Book](#)  
Appointments are held on Tuesdays in the Conference Room.

#### Year 11 students

If you are unsure as to what you would like to do after year 11, please do book an appointment to see Mrs. Desai to talk through all of your options and to look at the different routes available to you following the end of year 11.

#### 12 Work Experience Reminder

Thank you to all of the year 12 students who have contacted Mrs. Desai about their work placements, whether they have secured a placement or whether they are waiting to hear back from various companies. We still however have a number of outstanding forms to be completed. If you have yet to make contact about your placement, please email Mrs. Desai at [careers@reading-school.co.uk](mailto:careers@reading-school.co.uk) so that we can update our records and answer any questions you might have about the work placement week.

Once you have secured a Work Experience Placement for the July week, you must complete the online form so that we have a record of where your placement will be taking place. In addition, please ask your placement employers for a copy of their Employers Liability Insurance which should be emailed to Mrs. Desai at [careers@reading-school.co.uk](mailto:careers@reading-school.co.uk).  
The Year 12 Work Placement Form can be found here [Year 12 Work Experience Form](#)

#### Further Information & Resources:

For further guidance and useful tips regarding Work Experience students can visit [Student Ladder Work Experience](#)

Department for Education guidance suggests that the Benefits of Work Experience include:

- Skills Development: Work experience is primarily about developing skills, particularly employability skills.
- Helps to secure a graduate job: Employers state time and again that the more experience you get the more chance you have of landing the graduate job you want.
- Helps with planning your career: Gaining some work experience can help you make informed choices about your future career path.
- Gives a better understanding of the working environment: It's important to know and understand what your working environment is going to be like as you will spend at least a third of your day at work!
- Helps make future contacts: Gaining work experience is a great opportunity to make contacts whether for future jobs or for future clients.
- Develops Business acumen and commercial awareness: Employers often comment that having an understanding and experience in this area will put you head and shoulders above the competition. Work experience is one of main ways this can be gained.
- Putting theory into practice: Depending on your degree, your work experience may be directly relevant to your course, this will help you see how the theory you have learnt works in practice. It will also give you renewed confidence when you return to your studies and can help put theory into context.

A broad range of advice and guidance is available throughout the year via our Careers Advisor, Clare Desai, who is a fully qualified, experienced careers adviser who holds the QCF Level 6 Qualification in Careers Guidance. Clare is in school to conduct one to one interviews with students to discuss and advise on future plans every Tuesday and Thursday. This can be about A level choices, sixth form options, university or further options. Appointments with Clare can be booked via clicking on [Simply Book Careers Appointment](#)

We encourage students and parents to visit the National Careers Service which is a government funded website giving careers advice for 13-19 year olds at [National Careers Service](#)

Additionally, Higher Ideas is a programme that enables students to explore the different options available to you, based on the A level subjects you are taking or are thinking about taking. It facilitates consideration of different study options and combinations along with suggested Career Paths. To access Higher Ideas, students should log into SharePoint with their school accounts, click on Careers, useful Links, Higher Ideas.

## External Opportunities:

The following are examples of opportunities that providers and employers have highlighted to Reading School which we will continue to share with students.

### IET President's speech on engineering opportunities in the UK

Date: Tuesday the 27th Feb 2018 at 7.00pm (refreshments@6.30pm)  
Venue: The Abbey School, Kendrick Road, Reading, RG1 5DZ  
Registration: [www.theiet.org/events/local/252633.cfm](http://www.theiet.org/events/local/252633.cfm)

#### About this event

Speakers: Nick Winsor, The President, IET and Sophie Caffrey, IET Young Woman Engineer of the Year Award finalist

The government has proclaimed 2018 to be the Year of Engineering to tackle the engineering skills gap and widen the pool of young people to join the profession by increasing their awareness and understanding of what a career in engineering may involve. Nick will give an overview of the importance and versatility of engineering and why engineers are key to our future. Sophie Caffrey, IET Young Woman Engineer of the Year Finalist will also give an overview of the wide range of opportunities that engineering has opened up for her.

### Crown Packaging would like to recruit a Mechanical Engineering Apprentice at their site in Wantage, Oxfordshire.

[www.theengineeringtrust.org/apprenticeships/current-vacancies/mechanical-engineering-apprenticeship/](http://www.theengineeringtrust.org/apprenticeships/current-vacancies/mechanical-engineering-apprenticeship/)

**Closing date** 8th March 2018

**Working week** Monday to Friday 9am – 5pm with 30 minutes unpaid lunch break

**Average 37.5 hours**, Mon-Fri, 9am – 5pm

**Expected apprenticeship duration** 4 years

Possible start date 03 Sep 2018 Apprenticeship level Advanced Level Apprenticeship

#### Vacancy description

Working in the packaging industry this apprenticeship will give you the opportunity to gain experience in a commercial setting. Further career development is available at the end of the apprenticeship, allowing you to have an input in developing the metal packaging of the future and have the opportunity to travel to other Crown locations throughout the world.

The role of the apprentice is to train alongside the Research and Development Team and support their activities as you gain the necessary experience. The opportunity is very varied and you will report to the manager of the department. The key responsibilities for the apprentice are to follow the four year training programme, fine tuning mechanical skills such as turning and machining in order to produce parts for projects.

## CITB Apprenticeships

CITB offer a range of practical apprenticeships including Technical Apprenticeships which can lead you into the following career paths: Design; surveying; civil/site engineering; building control; buying; estimating; planning; site technical support. For more information on the types of apprenticeships offered, the different levels and how to apply, please use the following link: <https://www.citb.co.uk/bconstructive/>

You can find additional information from the year 11 talk on these apprenticeships, available on SharePoint in the Careers Section

## JOIN US ON...

### University Open Days:

Sixth Form Students: Now is the time that Universities start opening their doors to prospective students in the form of their Open Events. Open Days and Open Events at Universities are a great way to have a look around the Universities you are interested in, to meet students who are currently studying at the institutions, to look around your chosen Department and to get a general feel for the Universities themselves. UCAS have a list of Open Events which can be found here: <https://www.ucas.com/ucas/events/find/type/open-day>

Please note that if you wish to attend an Open Day during school time, you must first request permission from your tutor and Head of year.

### Considering a Career in Law?

Interested in a Career in Law but not sure about which route to take? Law Careers Network has an updated "Meet the Lawyers" section on its website. This section has profiles of over 30 solicitors at different firms, designed to give you a sense of how they got there, what their working day looks like and the advice they have to offer. Read how they made the transition from student to qualified lawyer.

<https://www.lawcareers.net/Solicitors/MeetTheLawyer?c=S171852&i=S171852>