

13/02/2025

Dear Parents / Carers

Year 11 Work Experience 2025 – Act Now!

I hope this letter finds you well. This morning, your son attended an inspiring assembly delivered by Jon Busby, an alumnus of RGS and the CTO of a leading IT/Marketing firm, emphasising the critical importance of work experience in shaping future careers. Jon shared his own journey and the role of work experience in building the skills and networks that supported his success.

Work experience is an invaluable opportunity for your son to develop his employability skills, gain real-world insights, and enhance his readiness for life beyond RGS. While your son has already been involved in various career activities, this is the perfect chance to step into a professional environment and put his learning into practice.

It's now crucial that students take responsibility and secure their placements. To reflect the expectations of the working world, they are encouraged to independently seek opportunities by leveraging family, social, and employer networks.

Dates for Work Experience

Students should choose five days between the following:

- **Monday 30th June – Friday 4th July 2025**
- **Monday 7th July – Friday 11th July 2025**

Action Required

All placements must be finalised and submitted via the Unifrog platform by **Tuesday 22nd April 2025**. The school cannot approve any placements after this deadline.

We understand the challenges of finding a suitable placement but urge you to act now. Placements are competitive and early action will provide the best opportunities. Volunteering roles, such as at local charities, museums or care homes, are equally valuable and can showcase a commitment to the community. Students should also check their Careers Google Classroom where opportunities are posted frequently.

Key Parent Responsibilities (as per previous letters)

1. **Encourage and support your son** to secure a placement as soon as possible.
2. **Log into Unifrog** with your son to ensure all forms are completed.
3. **Provide consent** via the Unifrog form.
4. Ensure your son can travel to and from the placement and inform the employer of any absence promptly.

5. Take responsibility for your son's care during the work experience week, as he will not be required to attend school.

Finding a Placement

A suggested list of resources can be found at the end of this letter.

Why This Matters

Work experience is an essential step in preparing your son for life after RGS. Without it, students risk being less competitive when applying for Sixth Form pathways, apprenticeships, or future opportunities. Sixth Form is not just about academic achievement; students are expected to demonstrate employability skills, resilience and experience that set them apart.

Universities, apprenticeship providers and employers increasingly seek candidates who can show they have engaged with the professional world and understand what it takes to succeed in it. Work experience demonstrates independence, resourcefulness and a proactive attitude—qualities that will be invaluable as your son progresses towards his next steps.

Securing a placement is a vital part of your son's career education at RGS, and we urge all families to ensure this process is completed.

Thank you for your support.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs. Sweta Thakrar, Careers Lead

Links:

www.investin.org (not free; use RGSHW10 for a 10 % discount code)

<https://amplifyme.com/> (not free)

<https://www.springpod.com/>

<https://www.speakersforschools.org/>

<https://young-professionals.uk/>

<https://pathwayctm.com/events/>

<https://www.theforage.com/>

<https://www.thebrokerage.org.uk/>

<https://bucksskillshub.org/work-experience>

<https://readeasy.org.uk/groups/chilterns/>

studio@wycombesound.org.uk

<https://www.volunteerbucks.org.uk/for-volunteers>

Volunteer@sbhospice.org.uk

<https://chilternrangers.co.uk/be-a-conservation-volunteer/>