



RGS Careers Department Contacts

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RGS NEWS

This Half-Term

It has been an incredibly productive beginning to the Spring Term! Kudos to the Y8 Young Enterprise Team Shake it Up (comprising Yuvi, Ayaan, James, and Oliver) for their commendable efforts in boosting aspirations. Their assembly for Year 7 showcased the exciting entrepreneurial activities planned for them post-half term. This initiative not only demonstrates their commitment but also serves as a source of inspiration for younger students.



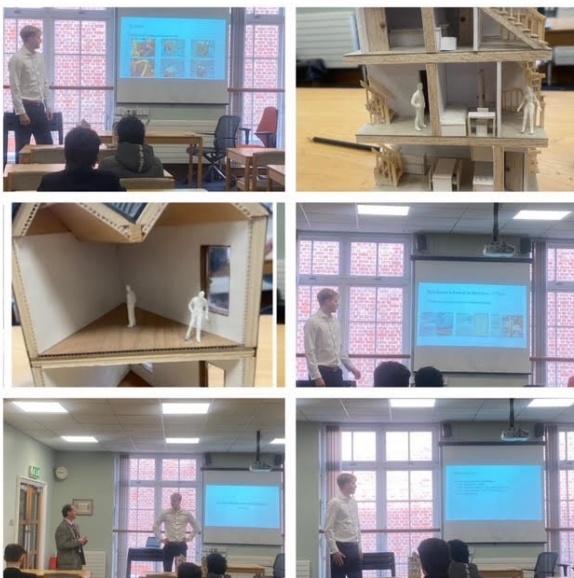
We also marked **National Apprenticeship Week** with enthusiasm, shedding light on this alternative pathway post A Levels, which is gaining notable traction at RGS. Former students (OWs) who opted for the apprenticeship route after leaving the school delivered a comprehensive presentation to the entire school community. They shared insights into their post-18 journey, detailing their experiences and current endeavours. This initiative not only brought the concept to life but also sparked increased interest among students. If you are thinking about the apprenticeship route, do contact careers@rgshw.com to be added to the Apprenticeship Teams.

As part of the week's celebrations, we had the privilege of hosting Holly Whittaker, a current Degree Apprentice at EY (and former Grammar school student). Holly graciously shared her insightful journey, offering valuable perspectives on the application process and her experiences since joining one of the world's Big 4 firms. It was an engaging session that provided students with first-hand knowledge and inspiration regarding the possibilities within the apprenticeship route.



In an informative session, both Year 8 and Year 9 students delved into the realm of Post-16 pathways, gaining valuable insights into options like vocational qualifications, T-Levels, and apprenticeships. The Berkshire College of Agriculture/The Windsor Forest Group played a pivotal role in this engagement, providing students with a comprehensive understanding of the diverse educational routes available Post-16. This initiative aimed to equip students with the knowledge needed to make informed decisions about their future education and career paths.

The Tuesday Talks Programme this half term has proven to be exceptionally engaging, delving into crucial topics such as Choosing Universities/Courses, Writing Personal Statements, and Life at University. The sessions provided invaluable insights, guiding students through the intricacies of university selection, personal statement crafting, and the overall university experience.



Mr Marshall and our dedicated DT Department extended a warm welcome to alumnus Tom Poulton, who graciously shared his inspiring journey into the field of Architecture. Tom's talk provided valuable insights into the profession, offering students a first-hand account of the challenges and rewards associated with pursuing a career in architecture.

Work Experience - Medicine - Ayaan Shaik Year 12

My name is Ayaan Shaik and I am a Year 12 student studying Biology, Chemistry, Maths and Physics having moved to RGS HW for my A-levels. I have a strong passion for Medicine which is why I spent 3 days of my Christmas holidays completing some work experience at Chelsea and Westminster Hospital. Work experience is vital for Medicine as this will be used in both your personal statement and interviews. Through it, you can demonstrate that you have a passion for Medicine, you can demonstrate that you understand what Medicine consists of and you can demonstrate what you learnt from the work experience. Getting work experience can take a long time, so you need to be proactive. When trying to get work experience, the Hospital needs to communicate with the school; Mrs. Thakrar was the one who helped me get through the process of attaining work experience – she is very active and helpful!

On the first day, I had to navigate myself around the Hospital to get my badge and was then escorted to the Acute Medicine Department. I saw a lot of skills (which had been talked about in many webinars and by guest speakers) being demonstrated in real-time which is amazing to see.

I got to shadow many different doctors ranging from senior clinical fellows to Foundation Year 1 doctors and it was really useful to get their take on Medicine as well as their advice because each was quite different to the other. I learnt to not be afraid to ask any questions because an opportunity to have exposure to professionals like this is extremely rare. I had some patient exposure through shadowing doctors who were taking blood, on ward rounds and checking up on a patient in the Emergency Department. I particularly enjoyed analysing scans and blood test reports with one of the senior clinical fellows as I was able to apply some of my GCSE and A-level knowledge to analysing these reports and then systematically collaborated with the Fellow to find out what suitable course of action was required. I got to see a lot of medical ethics being demonstrated like patient autonomy (essentially whatever the patient wishes for, it happens).



I spent some time shadowing various members of the General Surgery and learning about their journey and lifestyle as well as eagerly listening to their advice. I had the opportunity to witness a complex appendectomy where I learnt and witnessed many key skills of a competent doctor being displayed such as teamwork and communication.

I got the opportunity to spend some time in A&E, primarily Emergency Medicine (which is an interest of mine). I got a huge range of experience and had a lot of exposure to a wide variety of patients with different problems ranging from respiratory-related to gynaecological-related cases which appealed to me.

Throughout the entire 3 days of work experience, I witnessed a myriad of different skills being applied which will be useful for me to use as well as some awesome surgery, consultations and ward round assurance to patients.

You must have an idea of what you want from the work experience so always ask for what you would like to achieve. During the work experience, pay attention to what the healthcare professionals do as well as their advice and answers to your questions. Find out whether Medicine is right for you – do you have the skills, dedication and confidence not only to study to become a doctor but also to work as a doctor?

All the best with your Medicine journey.

Work Shadowing Experiences

On the 24th November 2023, Year 9 had the opportunity to undertake a day of work shadowing - the following students have written about their experiences:

Pearse Conway Year 9



For my work placement day, I shadowed my dad, a broker working in convertible bonds, on a day when he was working from home. I spent part of my day trying to understand the information on his Bloomberg screen, a computer system to facilitate the placement of financial transactions. It is all rather complicated, which is why employees need to have a degree in economics or maths. Since I don't have one of those, I also used my time interviewing some of my dad's colleagues to find out why they got into finance and what they enjoyed most about their careers.

One of the most important things I learned from the day was that while an excellent education from RGS and a good degree will be invaluable in the future, every career will require that you start from the bottom and learn on the job.

Max Martin Year 9

My work shadowing experience at Manor Farm Infant school:

It felt as if I was going back in time, as it's been 9 years since I started my school journey there and I have so many great memories! Many of the teachers remembered me and welcomed me back, which was really nice. In the morning I helped pupils in Year 1 & Year 2, engaging and helping them in their English and Maths lessons. The best part of the day was the afternoon, as it was PE, led by Active Sports. I assisted the coach, ensuring that the children warmed up correctly, and helped with teaching them various skills in the sports they were participating in. All the pupils seemed to have fun and enjoy it, which was great to see!



From my time spent there for the day, it has made me realise just how much work goes into teaching. A lot of preparation goes on behind the scenes, to ensure everything is ready ahead of each lesson, to enable every child to learn as much as possible. I certainly have a lot more appreciation now for how much effort goes into teaching! Experiencing life in a working environment has given me the opportunity to think about which career path I would like to follow. It has given me a chance to think about my strengths and interests, and I am looking forward to the future with excitement...

“Opportunities don't happen, you create them.”

Ethan Livesey Year 9



For my work shadowing experience day, I chose to work at Jaggard Macland LLP, which is my mum's place of work. This company is a Chartered Surveying firm, where they manage properties, as well as building surveying. I started off my day by being shown around the office, where I met the other members of staff, and the important things like the kitchen and the toilet!

I sat at a computer next to my mum, where I helped her prepare for a valuation. For this, I had to look at the property on google maps, and write down key facts about it, e.g number of windows, doors, and parking. After this, we travelled to Wendover and inspected the property. We took measurements of it, and wrote them down on a clipboard. When we got back to the office, we wrote up a report and uploaded the photos. After this I was taught by one of the partners how to carry out a re-instatement valuation for insurance purposes. I really enjoyed my day at Jaggard Macland, and I would like to thank them all for having me!

Sulaiman Mian Year 9

I did my work experience with Meta, formerly known as Facebook. I woke up relatively early to catch the Metropolitan line which took me straight to Euston Station, where the Meta Offices were located. In the morning, I was given a brief tour of all 14 floors of the offices, which consisted of Facebook, Instagram and WhatsApp teams working on the social media.



I was on the 5th floor, with WhatsApp's User Researcher team, where I had the opportunity to speak to a user researcher. In Meta, User Researchers play a crucial role understanding the needs of the users. They are in charge of conducting studies, gathering data and analysing user feedback to gain insights for the platform. They put this feedback into action, and launch new features, like 'WhatsApp Channels' launched last month. I got the chance to sit down with a few members of the team to tell me what it was about. User Researchers have to collaborate with designers, engineers, product managers and many other teams, to incorporate user insights into the development process. By conducting surveys, interviews, and other usability tests, they are able to help Meta adapt their products for their customers. All in all, User Researchers play a crucial role in Meta's efforts to create a digital environment for communication and meaningful connections.

Afterwards, I had lunch which was up to quite a good standard, not to mention the skittle vending machines on each floor scattered around the office. At the end of the day I got back on the train and reflected on the past few hours to take in the experience, which was extremely helpful and helped me get to know what a job was really like.

APPRENTICESHIPS

NATIONAL APPRENTICESHIP WEEK 2024

5th–11th FEBRUARY

#NAW2024

It's National Apprenticeship Week from 5th – 11th February 2024. Apprenticeships are a fantastic choice for many students, either straight after GCSE or after Sixth Form.

Help your parents find out more about apprenticeships with our free guide -
It's all in [The Parents' Guide to National Apprenticeship Week 2024](#)

Market International:
Apprenticeship Opportunities in Finance
and Digital Marketing

MARKEL

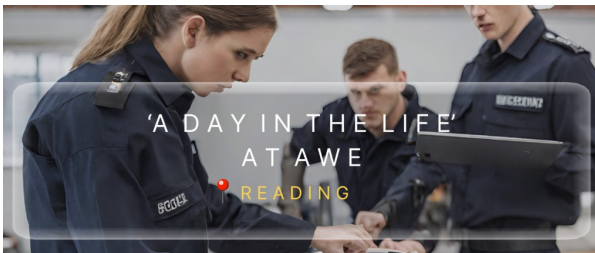
Join Market International's exciting
Apprenticeship Programme
in September 2024!

[Click Here](#)



Higher and Degree Apprenticeship Vacancy Listing

[Click Here](#)



A Taster Day Like No Other!
LAST CHANCE TO REGISTER

This opportunity is for students in years 11 – 13 who are wanting
to get a taste of what it could be like to work with the UK's largest
defence researching facility!

[Click Here](#)



Useful Apprenticeship guidance and links

[Click Here](#)



Further Apprenticeships and placements

[Click Here](#)

UNIVERSITY



Undergraduate Open Days

"The expert in anything was once a beginner."

EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES



Insight into Bristol

Insight into Bristol is a free Summer School for students from Asian, Black, and/or of mixed background featuring one of these groups, to experience what it is like to be a student at the University of Bristol. [Click Here](#)

Sutton Trust Summer School

The University of Bristol Sutton Trust Summer School offers students the opportunity to experience student life in one of the UK's most exciting cities. Our students will experience one of eight different subject streams, designed to provide an insight into a range of undergraduate courses at the University. [Click Here](#)



SUTTON TRUST UK SUMMER SCHOOLS GIVE YOU THE CHANCE TO EXPERIENCE WHAT UNIVERSITY LIFE IS REALLY LIKE

[Click Here](#)
for further information

VOLUNTEERING

Volunteering Opportunities for Half Term - Outdoor work with Chiltern Rangers

12 February: Scrub Pop & Chop: Buttler's Hangings

Help us to clear the scrub

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/816606591297>

12 February: Chalfont St Peter Woodland Day

A day in the woodlands creating a new pathway

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/818102154567>

12 February: Tree-mendous Tree Nursery Day

Finishing off the polytunnel and more!

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/818148252447>

13 February: Bledlow Cross Ash Felling Day

Help us to clear ash and enhance the visibility of Bledlow Cross.

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/814223593687>

15 February: Green Thursday Woodland Morning: Chalfont St Peter

A morning in the woodlands creating a pathway and wildlife hibernacula

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/818208823617>

15 February: Kingsmead felling and chipping afternoon

Thinning the trees to make more light for the river

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/818153137057>

16 February: Hedge Planting @ Raans Farm, Amersham

Help us to plant 100 metres of new hedgerow.

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/818215032187>