LHS Careers Events This Term

* Monday 14 March Apprenticeship Fair – Parents welcome Y10-Y13 1pm – 2.30pm main school hall
* Friday 15 April EU debate main hall 1.30- 2.30 whole school welcome
* Upcoming Presentations Army, QA Apprenticeships in IT, Chiltern Training Apprenticeship in childcare, business and administration

Careers

* **READING SCIENTIFIC SERVICES LIMITED – RSSL**

 Applications close 6 March 2016: [www.mdlzearlycareers.co.uk/opportunities](http://www.mdlzearlycareers.co.uk/opportunities)

**This is a fantastic opportunity post A Level to work /train as a scientific trainee Please do look at their web site for details (I have previously advertised)**

**SUMMER JOBS**

Stevensons, Reading Branch, Market Place, RG1 2EG have vacancies from April for Sales Advisors and Customer Service Advisors. They are also looking for full time staff from 6 July – 5 September and are paying from £6.10 per hour plus loyalty bonus. Please apply by covering letter and CV to, seanlanigan@stevensons.co.uk If you need any other information, please call 01189 596462

**CONSTRUCTION APPRENTICESHIP VACANCIES IN READING**

The construction industry employs around three million people – over 8% of the work force-so anyone choosing a construction career will be joining one of Britain’s largest, most exciting and rewarding industries. Currently there are **14** different companies in Berkshire looking to employ apprentices in the construction industry. Jobs in construction are not just “bricklaying” live vacancies at the moment range from bricklaying, maintenance operatives, carpenters, painters & decorators, roofers’ plasterers and wood machinists. I have attached brief details and would encourage any student thinking of leaving this summer with an interest is gaining a trade to take a look and to apply. I am always available to help with CV’s if needed. Just for your information, I have added some more information below in case the vacancies on the attached are not suitable.

**What do you need to do now to help you secure your dream job in this industry?**

1. Register your details on <http://www.citb.co.uk/bconstructive/citb-apprenticeships/> CITB works with thousands of employers across the UK and the local Apprenticeship Officers will contact those registered to let them know when a new position comes available and how to apply.
2. <https://www.goconstruct.org/> useful website to help you find out more information about the roles within the construction industry and useful tips on how to find employment
3. Register your details on [www.apprenticeships.gov.uk](http://www.apprenticeships.gov.uk) you can set up an alert for all new vacancies posted via the National Apprenticeship Service website. It is also advisable to check on the site yourself once a week.
4. National Home Builders and National Companies advertise their vacancies via their own websites (there are many more):
* [www.barrattcareers.co.uk](http://www.barrattcareers.co.uk)
* [www.taylorwimpey.co.uk/careers](http://www.taylorwimpey.co.uk/careers)
* [www.croudace.co.uk](http://www.croudace.co.uk)
* [www.crestnicholson.com](http://www.crestnicholson.com)
* [www.aplant.com/careers](http://www.aplant.com/careers)
* [www.persimmonjobs.com](http://www.persimmonjobs.com)
* [www.redrow.co.uk](http://www.redrow.co.uk)
1. Contact local Independent companies direct – you will be able to find contact details on website, yellow pages or even on the side of a van when it drives past you. Give them a call direct or drop them an email to find out if they are considering taking on an apprentice this year.
2. Local newspapers/job websites – check the situations vacant sections in local press or search on recruitment websites such as Indeed.

When you are applying for jobs, the employer is going to need to contact you. Make sure your contact details (mobile number/email address) are valid. If someone calls you from a number you don’t know, answer it! If you ignore it you may have missed your only opportunity. Also check your email inbox and junk mail on a daily basis.

**APPRENTICESHIP IN FINANCE - MHA MACINTYRE HUDSON**

This is a post A level opportunity to work for a local Reading based firm of accountants. They require students to have 260 or be predicted 260 UCAS points. Training will be led by Kaplan and will lead to AAT qualifications alongside either ACA or ATT. The application process is initially on line, involving two tests, followed by an assessment centre and the final interview. Please refer to their web site for more information:

[www.macintyrehudson.co.uk](http://www.macintyrehudson.co.uk) If you would like to talk to the recruitment officer please contact me : ewooller@littleheath.org.uk

**APPRENTICESHIP VACANCIES AT THAMES WATER**

Thames Water based in Reading are offering apprenticeships in two different areas – Electrical ICA and Mechanical and Electrical.

1. As a Mechanical and Electrical apprentice students will be learning about new and innovative technologies that will help improve the wart people at Thames Water work.
2. As an Electrical ICA Apprentice (Instrumentation, Controls and automation) students help to control all the instruments and systems on the Thames Water sites. Students work on the technology which monitors and controls all aspects of Thames Water’s water and wastewater processes and how they’re performing across the network. Students will become qualified to carry out planned preventative and general maintenance of equipment, modifying, rewiring, testing, inspecting, fault-finding etc. Students are trained to use Programmable Logic Controllers, Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition Systems, to write codes and make modifications to processes to ensure that sites perform to their very best.

Applications are now open and are on line, they require students to have or be predicted 5 GCSE’s grade C and above including English, Science, and Maths Applicants must have a “can do “attitude, be motivated, committed and able to work as part of a team. Applications are on line at: [www.thameswater.gtisolutions.co.uk/VacancyPosting/Search](http://www.thameswater.gtisolutions.co.uk/VacancyPosting/Search)

I have attached a Thames Water Apprenticeship Guide for Parents which I think is very useful, also further information about these vacancies can be found at: [www.thameswater.co.uk/careers/712.htm](http://www.thameswater.co.uk/careers/712.htm)

**ENGINEERING /COMPUTING VACANCIES – SEPTEMBER START**

Aim Apprenticeships are a training provider who have a number of Apprenticeship vacancies in Engineering (Advanced) and Computing (Higher) in the Reading area. These are due to close early in March. Aim Apprenticeships are very happy to help students with CV and interview preparation and to support students all the way through the application process. They will talk to students to make sure that the role is the best one for them and also explain fully what the role entails. . Please find the vacancies below:

[www.aimapprenticeships.co.uk/job-board/electronic-apprenticeships](http://www.aimapprenticeships.co.uk/job-board/electronic-apprenticeships)

[www.aimapprenticeships.co.uk/job-board/Mechanical-Apprenticeships](http://www.aimapprenticeships.co.uk/job-board/Mechanical-Apprenticeships)

[www.aimapprenticeships.co.uk/job-board/computing-apprentice](http://www.aimapprenticeships.co.uk/job-board/computing-apprentice)

**THE ROYAL AIR FORCE APPRENTICESHIPS**

The Royal Air Force (RAF) has over 2,000 vacancies each year in a variety of areas including Engineering, IT, Intelligence, Aircrew, Logistics, Personnel Support, Airfield Operations and Medicine. At the moment the RAF are promoting apprenticeships in Engineering, Logistics, IT, Personnel and Catering. Please do look at their web site for full details on these vacancies: [www.raf.mod.uk/careers](http://www.raf.mod.uk/careers)

**PROFESSIONAL PILOT CAREER**

**Saturday 9 April 2016, Sofitel Terminal 5, London Heathrow, 10am-4.30pm**

Pilot Careers Live is Europe’s largest independent flight training exhibition for anyone interested in the rewarding career as an airline pilot. The event provides all the information necessary about what it takes to become an airline pilot by bringing together leading pilot training companies, airlines and pilot career experts into one venue. Aspects covered include:

* What airlines look for when recruiting pilots
* Training costs
* The pilot selection process
* Career prospects
* Flying for the UK military
* Apprenticeships/sponsorship- what are the options
* Financing pilot training
* How to combine a university degree with pilot training

The day also features presentations from British Airways and the RAF. Full details and discounted student tickets are available via: [www.pilotcareernews.com/live](http://www.pilotcareernews.com/live)

**MIA MOTORSPORT AND AUTOMOTIVE JOBS FAIR**

**Wednesday 9 March 2016, Silverstone, 10am – 4pm**

The Motorsport Industry Association (MIA) is hosting a jobs fair which is aimed at students looking for placements such as apprenticeships, internships and graduate positions. It is hosted by employers from the motorsport and automotive sectors and provides an ideal opportunity to meet with potential employers and recruitment agencies to find out about the various roles and career paths available in this sector. For more information please email carly.latcham@the-mia.com or call 02476 692 600.

**NESTLE WORK EXPERIENCE**

Studentsin year 10 and above have the chance to win work experience at Nestle through an on line challenge called **Zero to Hero.** Students are asked to design a product from waste produced at a Nestle site. There are 150 places available at the Nestle Finale day at York or Gatwick. This is an interactive challenge which asks students to think of a topical issues – sustainability. To enter this fantastic challenge please follow this link: [www.mykindacrowd.com/Challenges/Zero-to-Hero](http://www.mykindacrowd.com/Challenges/Zero-to-Hero)

**Y11 & Y12 STUDENTS INTERESTED IN MEDICINE**

The RBH is running a course on the 12 July 2016 for students with a genuine interest in following a Career in Medicine. This will be a very popular course so only students with a genuine interest in medicine will be considered. This course will give students a fantastic insight into what it would be like to work in a hospital environment, there will be an opportunity to meet staff and current medical students to hear about their career paths and in the afternoon there will be practical workshops. Application forms are available from the Careers Office – the closing date for application is **15 April 2016**

**Y12 SUMMER SCHOOL – PATHWAYS TO PROPERTY**

This takes place at Reading University, no costs are involved and there even is a chance to gain a £1000 bursary if students successfully enrol onto a Real Estate & Planning course at Reading University. After the summer school students have the opportunity to take part in additional activities which include work experience in a planning or real estate firm and undergraduate mentoring. This is a fabulous opportunity for any student interested in a career in property: [www.reading.ac.uk/pathways-to-property](http://www.reading.ac.uk/pathways-to-property).

**ACADEMIC SUMMER SCHOOLS**

The Debate Chamber Summer Schools offer students aged 11-18 the opportunity to find out more about some fascinating subjects, prepare for university applications, meet like-minded peers and get to grips with some tough intellectual challenges. These are held at the University of London and take place in July and August 2016 – no accommodation is provided. Highlights this summer include:

* The Medicine Summer School (students aged 15-18) this is a series of two day events with specialist sessions on cardiology, paediatrics, oncology, etc.
* The English Literature Summer School – series of three 5 day blocks to allow in depth analysis and discussion
* There are also summer schools covering: Philosophy Law, Economics, International Relations History, Politics and Art For more information please refer to: [www.debatechamber.com/summerschools](http://www.debatechamber.com/summerschools)

Mrs Coneley & Mrs Wooller

Job Spotlight

Optometry

**Thinking about a career in optics? Here’s what you need to know:**

If you’re looking for a challenging career in healthcare that offers lots of job satisfaction, working in optics may be the answer. As well as treating and caring for eyes, optometry is about using your skills and technical understanding to make a real difference to people's quality of life.

Whether you’re still at school, considering a degree in optometry at college, or thinking about a change of direction, here’s what you need to know before entering the profession.

**Why work in the optical profession?**

Working in the optical profession requires a unique blend of technical knowledge and people skills. As an optometrist, you focus on science-led theory and practice, learning about the mechanics of the eye and how to test and manage eye conditions. And you continue to learn after your optometry degree, too. Optometrists and dispensing opticians are continually broadening their expertise by reading the latest research, attending interactive seminars and reading journals. Apart from the technical knowledge you get the opportunity to work with a mix of people and provide excellent patient care, making a difference to communities.

**What jobs can I do in optics?**

**Optometrists** are skilled healthcare professionals who examine eyesight, prescribes glasses or contact lenses, checks for eye conditions, as well as spot underlying health issues like diabetes and high blood pressure. An optometrist could be working for a large chain or smaller independent practice in a hospital or clinic; carrying out research in a lab; or providing sight tests in people’s homes.

**Dispensing opticians** (DO) are trained to fit lenses, coatings and frames for patients, using prescriptions written by optometrists and the role requires technical expertise and good customer service skills. They advise patients on various types of lenses and spectacle frames, including advice on style, weight and colour. The majority of dispensing opticians work in either high street optometrists or for independent practices.

**Optical assistants** and clinical assistants are the first point of contact when a patient visits a practice. They make sure that any necessary paperwork is completed before a patient sees the optometrist. The support team is highly trained and can advise on suitable spectacle frames and lenses as well as instruct patients on how to use contact lenses safely. In addition, they may also have been trained to perform some clinical tests, but the results will be looked at by the optometrist.

**What training do I need to be an optometrist?**

You need As and Bs in three A-levels (or in Highers or Baccalaureate), with at least two science subjects. After which, you have to train for three (four in Scotland) years at university to obtain a degree in optometry. This needs to be followed by a year of supervised training in the workplace – your pre-registration year – where you’ll be given a series of assessment and practical exams. Once you’ve finished your training and pre-reg year, to be able to practise as an optometrist you need to register with the General Optical Council (GOC), the governing body

The following universities offer optometry degree:

* [Anglia Ruskin University](http://www.anglia.ac.uk/ruskin/en/home/prospectus/ugft/b513.html)
* [Aston University](http://www.aston.ac.uk/study/undergraduate/courses/school/lhs/optometry/)
* [The University of Bradford](http://www.bradford.ac.uk/study/courses/view/?c=optometry-bsc-3-years)
* [Cardiff University](http://www.cardiff.ac.uk/optom/)
* [City University](http://www.city.ac.uk/health/courses/undergraduate/optometry)
* [Glasgow Caledonian University](http://www.gcu.ac.uk/study/internationalstudents/courses/optometry-8856.php?loc=notuk)
* [University of Hertfordshire](http://www.herts.ac.uk/)
* [The University of Manchester](http://www.ls.manchester.ac.uk/undergraduate/courses/optometry/)
* [Plymouth University](http://www1.plymouth.ac.uk/courses/undergraduate/4321/Pages/CourseOverview.aspx)
* [University of Ulster](http://www.ulster.ac.uk/courses/course-finder/201617/Optometry-5997)

**What training do I need to be a dispensing optician?**

As a dispensing optician, you need to complete academic and practical training over a minimum of three years to obtain fellowship of the Association of British Dispensing Opticians (ABDO). As part of your training you take part in work-based placements to help develop your practical skills as well as technical. All dispensing opticians need to register with the GOC, too. Many DOs take on further training to learn how to fit contact lenses and provide low vision aids to the visually impaired.

The following universities and colleges offer dispensing optician degrees and courses:

**View the latest optical jobs on**[**Optometry Today jobs**](https://www.aop.org.uk/ot/jobs)

* [ABDO College](http://www.abdo.org.uk/)
* [Anglia Ruskin University](http://www.anglia.ac.uk/ruskin/en/home/prospectus/ugft/b513.html)
* [Bradford College](https://www.bradfordcollege.ac.uk/)
* [City University](http://www.city.ac.uk/health/courses/undergraduate/optometry)

**Get in touch**

**Association of Optometrists**

2 Woodbridge StreetLondonEC1R 0DG [map](https://www.google.co.uk/maps/place/Association%20Of%20Optometrists/%4051.523876%2C-0.103564%2C18z/data%3D%213m1%214b1%214m2%213m1%211s0x48761b44acc69f7f%3A0x781bc37c2747472a)

T: 020 7549 2000F: 020 7251 8315postbox@aop.org.uk

[Follow AOP on Twitter](https://twitter.com/The_AOP?lang=en-gb) [Follow AOP on Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/pages/Association-of-Optometrists/256000801169756) [Connect with the AOP on LinkedIn](https://www.linkedin.com/company/association-of-optometrists?trk=top_nav_home)

**Optometry Today**

2 Woodbridge StreetLondonEC1R 0DG [map](https://www.google.co.uk/maps/place/Association%20Of%20Optometrists/%4051.523876%2C-0.103564%2C18z/data%3D%213m1%214b1%214m2%213m1%211s0x48761b44acc69f7f%3A0x781bc37c2747472a)

T: 020 7549 2070F: 020 7251 8315newsdesk@optometry.co.uk

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