

**Events This Term**

* **260918 – AWE teach Y9 Engineering P4 C10**
* **011018-Medical Mavericks-Medical Workshop-Main Hall Y12 &Y11**
* **021018 Reading Brain Bee Psychology International competition Y11-13 Main Hall 2.05**
* **031018 Unifrog assembly Y12 & Y11 Main Hall**
* **071018- NG Bailey- STEM Workshop- Main Hall Y7**
* **081018-NG Bailey-STEM Workshop-Main Hall Y8**
* **151018 AWE Engineering Challenge – Trip to AWE Y9**
* **1701018- Higher Education & Careers Fair- 6pm – 7.30pm-whole school welcome!**

**Reading Scholars Programme Y12**

The Reading Scholars programme aims to give Year 12 students a real taste of life as a university undergraduate, and to provide practical support as participants begin their Higher Education application process. Featuring input from leading academics and current undergraduate mentors, the programme will challenge participants academically and enhance current studies.

The programme takes place at the University of Reading's Whiteknights campus, and students will participate in four events throughout the academic year 2019. These will include master classes led by academics in their subject of choice, a Student Experience Day in February, a study skills session and finally a three day residential summer school in June 2019. All costs related to participation in the programme, including transport, lunch, refreshments and accommodation are covered in advance for participating students, who will also get to take part in a range of fun team-building and social events.

Students participating in the programme must have achieved at **least five A\* - C grades at GCSE** and be on course to achieve good grades at A-Level or equivalent (i.e. BBB). The programme is targeted at students who fall into our priority groups (for example young carers or family income of less than £25,000) - the full selection criteria for the programme can be seen [**https://www.reading.ac.uk/web/files/ta/Reading\_Scholars\_Selection\_Criteria.pdf**](https://www.reading.ac.uk/web/files/ta/Reading_Scholars_Selection_Criteria.pdf)

Students who successfully take part in the Scholars programme who go on to apply for an undergraduate course at the University of Reading are guaranteed to receive either an invite to interview or a conditional offer. Applicants who go on to select the University of Reading as their firm choice institution are also eligible for a two grade drop on their offer for most courses, and to apply for a £**1000 Scholars** bursary in their first year.

The programme is offered in the following subject areas this year:

* + **Art & Design**
	+ **Biology**
	+ **Business**
	+ **Chemistry, Food Science and Pharmacy**
	+ **English Literature**
	+ **Mathematics**
	+ **Modern Languages (French, German and Spanish)**
	+ **Psychology**
	+ **History, Archaeology, and Classics**
	+ **Physical Geography and Environmental Science**

For full details and on line application please refer to:

[**https://www.reading.ac.uk/teachers-and-advisors/events-and-activities/ta-readingscholars.aspx**](https://www.reading.ac.uk/teachers-and-advisors/events-and-activities/ta-readingscholars.aspx)

**Studying in USA – USA College Day**

**28 September 4.30pm-7.30pm & 29 September 10.30am- 3pm**

**ILEC Conference Centre, London**

This is the largest US university fair in Europe and provides students, parents and advisers with the unique opportunity to meet representatives from over 150 American universities and educational service providers in London.  Tickets are free but must be booked in advance.

**www.fulbright.org.uk/events/**usa-college-day

**Gap Year Opportunity**

A winter sports company specialising in the ski and snowboard industry, is currently recruiting interns for 2019/2020 season. This would suit a school leaver interested in a gap year or a career in the ski and snowboard industry. A ski or snowboard internship trains students to be a level 1 instructor and then have a guaranteed job as an instructor for the winter. Internships run in Canada and New Zealand and they advise applying for an internship 1 year in advance to allow time to get a working holiday visa. This is an opportunity for an international qualification and a guaranteed job whilst travelling on a gap year. Applicants do not need previous instructor experience to apply.
For more information about gap year **courses and internships please visit:** [**www.wintersportscompany.com**](http://www.wintersportscompany.com/)**.**

 **Work Experience at RAL**

**Rutherford Appleton Laboratory**

RAL are again offering work experience to students who are in years 10 -13. Applications are now open for their traditional work experience and also their engineering week of work experience. Please look at their web site to find out about the differences. This would suit anyone with an interest in STEM subjects and is a terrific opportunity to find out about what a career in this sector would be like. Application is on line and the deadline for all applications is 31 December 2018.

[**https://stfc.ukri.org/about-us/work-with-us/work-experience/workexperienceral/**](https://stfc.ukri.org/about-us/work-with-us/work-experience/workexperienceral/)

**Work Experience at NG Bailey**

**22nd – 26th October 2018**

 NG Bailey, based in Theale is offering a work experience programme for students in Years 10-12 during half tem. They are running a mechanical and electrical engineering based work experience scheme, in the hope of sourcing some young talent. The week will provide insight and experience into what their engineers do every day, and the potential projects a career in engineering can lead to. Students will be required to work as part of a group but also think independently to design and present building plans, as well as developing skills in multiple areas. The work experience will be hosted by NG Bailey engineers and apprentices (amongst other staff), who will mentor the successful students and provide them with the information and skills required to make the most out of the week. Application forms are available from the Careers Office and the deadline for applications is midnight 2nd October 2018

**What Career Live? What University Live?**

**12 & 13 October, Olympia, London**

This event is for students and parents/carers who want to find out more information about future pathways. There will be University and Careers talks, seminars, workshop, CV clinics, mock assessments, one to one advice available and much more. To book a free ticket or to find out more information please go to: [**www.whatcareerlive.co.uk**](http://www.whatcareerlive.co.uk)

**“Create Your Future”**

**15 & 16 October 10am – 3pm**

 **Excel, Royal Victoria Dock, 1 Western Gateway, London E16 1XL**

 A unique face-to-face experience with hundreds of creative courses, traineeships and careers in design, music and the performance arts, all under one roof. Have a truly immersive experience as course leaders, current students and industry specialists answer your questions and give advice, and performances bring your future to life. If you are interested in a creative future, this event will help you decide on your next steps. To book a free ticket or to receive more information please email: **events@ucas.ac.uk** or call: 01242 544808

**School Clubs**

Please find attached a grid of all our school clubs which are running this term – please do think about joining one or two. It’s a great way to make new friends across different year groups and to have fun!

Kind regards

Eileen Wooller

Careers Officer

ewooller@littleheath.org.uk



 **Job Spotlight**

**Jewellery Plating**

[**Susanne Christian**](https://ccskills.org.uk/network/profile/22679)**, 29 November 2012**

Jewellery platers coat (or ‘plate’) pieces of jewellery with a thin coating of metal. Plating can be applied to newly-created pieces of jewellery or reapplied to older pieces where the plating has become dull or worn.

To work in jewellery plating, you need to be interested in metal and metal processes.

Photo: Holts Academy

**What do jewellery platers do?**

Most plating is done by a chemical process known as electroplating. The item of jewellery is placed in a tank containing a chemical solution and a block of the plating metal. By passing an electric current through the solution, a specific amount of the metal is transferred onto the jewellery.

Other, less widely used, ways of applying plating to metal are:

* brush plating, where electroplating is applied with a brush
* gilding with thin sheets of gold, known as gold leaf.

Most jewellery plating is either silver or gold. Gold plating can be done using 18 or 24 carat gold. Pure (24 carat) gold is soft, so alloys can be added to harden it (which slightly reduce the purity).

White gold is an alloy of gold and another white metal. It can look grey, so it is often plated in rhodium to give it a bright white look. Plating can also be done in other gold, such as pink or rose.

Plating can also be done with other metal, including platinum, palladium, nickel, copper and brass. The choice of plating metal depends on the item and on the effect required. Platinum, for example, is very hard and scratch-resistant. Palladium is resistant to tarnishing. Plating can be carried out to different thicknesses, depending on the piece and the customer’s requirements. The plating can then be [finished](https://ccskills.org.uk/careers/advice/article/%7Bpage_3610%7Djob-profiles/details/polisher-finisher) to give different effects. It is also possible to plate other materials. Most plastics and ceramics can be plated in gold or silver. Other things, such as shells, can also be plated.

Plating non-metal surfaces is more complicated. First conductive paint is applied to the object, and then copper plating, before the precious metal plating can be done.

Electroforming is similar to electroplating, but deposits a thicker layer of plate onto the object. Unlike electroplating, it can be applied direct to non-metal objects. It can be used to make delicate objects rigid - leaves, for example.

**What is the job like?**

Most plating companies apply plate to jewellery that has been made elsewhere. They may take work from jewellery manufacturers, jewellery makers and from the public. Companies may also plate non-jewellery items such as medals, nautical hardware, taps, firearms and cutlery. Most jewellery plating is done by specialist companies. They may also repair, finish or engrave jewellery. As well as plating jewellery, they may work on other plating jobs for industry. Jewellery platers work with chemicals, so they wear protective clothing. The plating is done in sealed tanks, and the process can be computer-controlled. Some jewellery makers do their own plating work. They may be working on a self-employed basis in their own studio. It's possible to become a self-employed electroplater.

**How do I get into jewellery plating?**

To work in jewellery plating, you need to:

* be interested in metal and metal processes
* have an interest in science and the ability to understand the chemistry and physics of electroplating
* be able to work to high standards of quality and health and safety

An employer may expect you be prepared and able to maintain the electroplating machinery.

**What qualifications and training do I need?**

There is no set entry route into jewellery plating. Some people come into the work through jewellery making, [goldsmithing](https://ccskills.org.uk/careers/advice/article/%7Bpage_3610%7Djob-profiles/details/goldsmith) or [silversmithing](https://ccskills.org.uk/careers/advice/article/%7Bpage_3610%7Djob-profiles/details/silversmith). Others start working for a company which does plating for non-jewellery items. There are jewellery (and other) plating companies around the UK. If you are keen to get into jewellery plating, you may want to approach a local company for part-time or work experience opportunities.

The [Institute of Metal Finishing (IMF)](http://www.uk-finishing.org.uk/) offers courses at foundation, technician and advanced level which include electroplating along with other topics. It is possible to study electroplating in a standalone course. These courses are not specific to jewellery plating. The courses have no specific entry requirements, but maths and science subjects would be relevant. Business studies or enterprise are also useful if you want to run your own business.

There are companies which offer short courses in electroplating, electroforming and brush plating. These courses can be expensive and do not lead to recognised qualifications. You need to check carefully before you apply that the course will give you the training you are looking for.

**What can I earn?**

As an electroplater working in a company, you may earn up to £25,000.

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