





VALLEY PARK  
SCHOOL

# CAREERS NEWSLETTER


This newsletter is a collation of all the opportunities we have heard about from employers and universities. Please use the links included to read more information and apply to anything you are interested in. Links are underlined.


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## OPPORTUNITIES


 ERIC App are launching National Freelancer Week! From 8-14 June 2026, this week-long campaign will focus on helping young people understand and succeed in freelance careers and the creator economy across the creative industries. [Register your interest here](#).

 Students, apprentices and young people will soon be able to study and work across Europe, as the UK and EU sign the legal text in Brussels today to formally [bring the UK into Erasmus+ in 2027](#).

 [Welcome to Skill City](#) - your arena for the careers of the future. Navigate an immersive world where your passions become professional power-ups. Engage with Expert Citizens to master AI, build a scroll-stopping brand, and unlock the "insider" secrets of the modern workforce. Whether you're starting out or levelling up, step into the spotlight and lead the way.

 "UK University Search is dedicated to helping students make the right choices about their future. We aim give young people the best possible start by providing our free higher education and apprenticeships fairs and website, so that students are informed and empowered to make the right choices." UK University Search ran several webinars in April 2026 covering topics such as Introduction to Russell Groups, Considering Clinical and Health Professions and Researching University Options are [now available here](#).

 [Apprenticeships in the Creative Sector webinar](#) takes place on 16<sup>th</sup> June at 5pm. Dreaming of a career in the creative industries? This is your chance to learn how apprenticeships can open doors to exciting opportunities! Join this webinar to explore the range of creative-sector apprenticeships available, hear from leading employers about current and upcoming vacancies, get application top tips to help you stand out and listen to apprentices share their real experiences.

 From online selling and tutoring, to delivery work and dog walking, there are lots of ways you might make money outside your main job. But did you realise there are tax rules for side hustles that everyone has to follow? [Here's what you need to know](#).

## JOB OF THE WEEK

 [Railway Signaller](#)

A train signaller is a safety-critical role responsible for controlling the movement of trains by operating signals, points, and level crossings from a signal box or control centre. They ensure safe spacing between trains, manage routing, and handle emergencies. The role requires calm decision-making, high concentration, and shift work.

## LABOUR MARKET INFORMATION FACT

The most popular areas for Degree Apprenticeship industries are health (27.5%), construction (22.3%) and digital technology (16.9%). Regional take-up of degree apprenticeships varies, with London (19.1%) and the North West (15.1) topping the table, while the North East (3.0%) seeing lowest take-up. [Source](#)

[If you have any questions or need support, please email r.culbreth@valleypark.viat.org.uk](mailto:r.culbreth@valleypark.viat.org.uk)



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Would you want to be the Prime Minister? What if all the world's leaders were teenagers? That's the premise of bestselling author Soman Chainani's new YA political thriller *Young World*. Join this talk on 8<sup>th</sup> June at 2pm to find out why Soman wanted to inspire young voters and would-be voters with this book. Hear about what its like to be an author, from first coming up with an idea to launching the book in stores, get a chance you hear about creating worlds and characters and why the stories we write matter.

Join Dr Llŷr ap Cenydd as he introduces you to the fundamentals of creating lifelike creatures in gaming. He explores and evaluates the applications of Artificial Intelligence, different animation methods, and Virtual Reality in gaming, showing live examples of creature development in his own games.

Use the UniTasterDays "university event discounts and rewards" tool to see if there are any travel incentives to help you when booking in university open days. Examples include Arts University Plymouth offering travel expenses of up to £80 for eligible students attending their undergraduate open days and campus tours or De Montfort University offering a £5 voucher for Uber or Uber Eats for those booked to attend their open days.

WhatUni have a new tool to help you get real about your uni living costs - "Avoid the guesswork of university living costs with our new calculator. From accommodation to bills, it breaks down all the costs to help you plan your budget with confidence."

Check out the Southampton Solent 52 things to do website. They provide weekly activities, challenges, and guides to help you get ready for university, from now until freshers' week. Upcoming topics include responding to your offers, where to find discounts for freshers' week and a guide to clearing.

UCAS are running a series of Instagram lives between now and the end of August, covering key topics such as tackling exam stress and preparing for results day. Follow their Instagram page to keep up to date with upcoming dates. If you are signed up to the UCAS hub, you will also receive emails with all the information.

## EMPLOYER SPOTLIGHT

"We believe that everyone has the potential to achieve great things, no matter where they start from. That's why we offer a range of early careers opportunities designed to make an exciting career happen for you. Whether you're still studying or have just graduated, there are plenty of ways to start your journey with Bupa."

Find out more about Careers at Bupa here.

## UNI SPOTLIGHT

"We are a global community of ideas and people, dedicated to life-changing education and research. Through our world-class research and innovation, we are positively impacting society and shaping future digital economy through agile collaboration with businesses, governments and communities."

You can learn more about University of Surrey here.

If you have any questions or need support, please email [r.culbreth@valleypark.viat.org.uk](mailto:r.culbreth@valleypark.viat.org.uk)