

RAISING THE PARTICIPATION AGE (RPA)

WHAT IS RPA?

The government has increased the age to which all young people in England must continue in education or training. From 2013 students must stay in education until the end of the academic year in which they turn 17 and from 2015 the age limit will increase until the end of the academic year in which they turn 18.

DOES THIS MEAN STAYING AT SCHOOL?

No, it is not just about staying on at school. Young people have a choice about how they continue in education or training post-16, which could be through:

- ▶ Full-time study in a school, college or with a training provider
- ▶ An Apprenticeship
- ▶ Full-time work or volunteering combined with part-time education or training.
(Training needs to be accredited and must be for a minimum of 280 hours over the course of a year – this is equivalent to around one day per week, but it can be taken flexibly.)

HOW UXBRIDGE COLLEGE CAN HELP

We can provide information about the options available:

We can help with careers advice and information to assist young people in making the right choice for their future. Our unbiased careers advisers can provide the help young people need to make those important next steps, whether that is in school, at college or on a work-based learning programme such as an Apprenticeship.

We may be able to provide financial help for students:

Uxbridge College's 16-19 bursary fund is available to assist students who may need extra support to continue in education. For more information and to find out if you are eligible for the bursary, contact **01895 853333**.

FURTHER INFORMATION

www.education.gov.uk/rpa - general information about RPA

www.apprenticeships.org.uk – advice and vacancy service for Apprenticeships

www.ucasprogress.com – information on different post-16 options

www.nationalcareersservice.direct.gov.uk – general careers advice.

