

18 December 2017

Dear Parents and Carers

This year has been a really good year at the UTC with wonderful exam results which were well above national averages and almost 90% of our leaving students gaining high quality apprenticeships in the surrounding area, with the remainder going to university. This is against a Cumbria average of 5% of school leavers going in to apprenticeships. Students have also had the opportunity to work with an even wider range of employers than previously and to further develop their employability skills. There have been a large number of trips abroad and in the UK for cultural visits as well as employment based visits. All in all it has been a very busy and productive year. I am proud of each and every one of our students and pleased that the UTC is a safe secure and vibrant place for them to learn.

I would like to thank all our students for their hard work this year. The vast majority of our students work hard, take advantage of all the opportunities the UTC has to offer, and achieve well. I would also like to take this opportunity to thank parents and carers for their support, only by working together will our young people achieve their potential. Please support your child working over the Christmas period, particularly if they are in year 11 or 13 – they need to keep working and have been given plenty to do.

I would also like to thank our staff who work tremendously hard to support our students and regularly go 'above and beyond' in their commitment to ensuring the very best for the young people in our care. Without the dedication of our staff our students would simply not succeed anywhere near as well as they do.

A final thanks must go to the employers who work with us. They make the UTC an exciting and different place to learn and we especially thank Morgan Sindall for sponsoring our uniform and 1-1 maths and English tuition as well as supporting us with employer projects and Outward Bound. This term Nuvia, Iggesund, Shepleys and the Rotary Club have supported us with real life employer projects, Jacobs has sponsored our new DEC! Course, Balfour Beatty and Doosan Babcock have interviewed sixth form students for the Duke of York Award, Kaefer have delivered interactive workshops to our year 10 & 11 students and numerous other employers have attended our world of work day or provided advice and assistance to our students. The number of employers our students have worked with really is too numerous to list here, so thank you to all of them.

I would like to take this opportunity to update you on some vital information.

Parent – tutor consultation day

As you will be aware, we finish term on Tuesday 19 December, with a parent – tutor consultation day. Please make sure you keep your appointment on this day and discuss your child's progress this term. This is a really important opportunity to work with us to ensure the very best for your child. At the meeting you will receive the second achievement report this term, which shows your child's progress towards their targets, this is based on the last assessment / mock exams which were taken

in late November / early December. For year 11 and 13 students, predicted grades will also be shown. The report will also show attitude to learning and attendance.

Reports will be available in paper copy but will also be on SIMS ParentApp. If you have not used the App yet I would strongly encourage you to do so. In the near future we will be moving towards electronic only reports which will be delivered through the App. You have been emailed your username and password, if you do not have this information please check your email 'spam' box, if it is not there please do not hesitate to get in touch and we will reissue this information.

SIMS ParentApp

What you will find in the SIMS ParentApp:

- Important information about your child's attendance, behaviour and achievement.
- School term, inset day dates and contact details available at the click of a button
- Access to your child's school report
- Notifications to remind you about important information such as key dates for your diary
- Access to update your contact details, so we always have the most up-to-date information in case of emergency
- If you have more than one child at school, you'll have access to information for all your children, from the same App.

The information that you receive through the App will help you to stay up-to-date with your child's school life as well as support your child's development and progress. You can use the App on your tablet, PC or smartphone.

Uniform

May we remind you that all students should attend the UTC in full uniform at all times. The uniform policy is attached - for all students it is: UTC fleece, UTC polo shirt, UTC work trousers, plain black shoes (**NOT** trainers) and lanyard. **No hoodies**. Outdoor coats should not be worn once inside the UTC.

In addition safety shoes, overall / lab coat, safety glasses and safety gloves should be kept at the UTC in your child's locker. These should be kept on site so they are always available for practical workshop lessons.

Full school uniform is a crucial way we make a statement about the importance of learning and pride in children's achievements so your continued support with this is greatly appreciated. Sanctions will apply for students who are not in uniform. Your child should also have a school bag every day and full equipment of pen, pencil, ruler, rubber, calculator etc.

Attendance and Punctuality

Attendance and punctuality are very important, not only for your child's learning but also for their future opportunities. Last year three students were offered apprenticeships only to have the offer withdrawn due to attendance below 97% or poor punctuality.

Research from the government shows that attendance below 95% has a real impact on GCSE / A level results:

“...pupils with 100% attendance are 2.5 times more likely to achieve 5+ GCSEs A*-C (grades 9 - 4) or equivalent and 2.8 times more likely to achieve 5+ GCSEs A*-C (grades 9 - 4) or equivalent including English and Mathematics than pupils missing 5-10% of lessons.”

This means students simply cannot afford to be absent from the UTC for minor ailments or feeling slightly unwell. Please support us by making medical appointments outside school time where possible or sending your child back into school afterwards where not. Unless your child has a serious illness, please send them in to school and we will look after them, contacting you as necessary.

2018

Students will return to the UTC on Monday 8 January 2018 at the normal time. 2018 term dates are below and also available on our website.

Spring term

Monday 8 January – Thursday 29 March (Friday 30 March is Good Friday)

Half term Monday 12 February – Friday 16 February

Summer term

Monday 16 April – Friday 20 July

May Bank holiday 7 May

Half term Monday 28 May – Friday 1 June

Finally, may we wish you all a restful and enjoyable Christmas and New Year break and I look forward to working with you all in 2018.

Yours faithfully



Cherry Tingle
Principal

UNIFORM POLICY

What will students wear at the UTC?

Consistent with the working environment of the Energy Coast UTC, students will be expected to maintain the same professional manner and appearance they would adopt while working in industry.

Our dress code has been designed to reflect our facilities and help create a modern and successful working environment.

Students will receive one set of uniform that has been paid for by one of our sponsors Morgan Sindall, however additional items of uniform will incur a charge.

UTC fleece	To be purchased from Liberty Work and Leisure
UTC polo shirt	To be purchased from Liberty Work and Leisure
UTC trousers	To be purchased from Liberty Work and Leisure .
UTC lanyard	Available from the UTC
UTC overall / lab coat	To be purchased from Liberty Work and Leisure
Black safety shoes	To be purchased from Liberty Work and Leisure
Black or navy blue socks	From any high street shop

PE Kit: Compulsory for Year 10 and 11

Shoes

All students are required to wear black safety shoes available from Liberty Work and Leisure when in workshop areas. Plain black shoes may be worn at other times. Trainers, canvas pumps, high heels, toe-less, sling back, backless or ugg style shoes are not acceptable. Shoes must be maintained and polished to a good standard.

Jewellery

Stud type earrings are permitted, any other jewellery must not be worn in the UTC.

Hair and Make-up

Make up should be discreet and natural looking. Hair should be sensible both in style and colour and tied back when in workshops and or science lessons.