



## Parent Update – September 2017

Dear parents/carers,

We greeted students and staff back to UTC Swindon this week after a well-earned summer break and we especially welcome new students in Years 10 and 12 along with new staff joining the UTC team.

### New Staff

In addition to replacing staff we sadly said farewell to at the end of last term, we have also been successful in adding to our staff as we continue to grow.

Danni Amorim – Teacher (Maths)  
Natalie Curtis – Teacher (English)  
Ben Griffin – Teacher (Computing/IT)  
Liz Clarkson – Student Support Manager  
Saleem Yousaf – Teacher (Science/Maths)  
Will O'Dowd – Teacher (Computing/IT)  
David Court – Teacher (Engineering)  
Steve Warrin – Teacher (Engineering)

We wish them every success at UTC Swindon in this exciting stage of our development.

### Activate Learning Education Trust (ALET)

On 1<sup>st</sup> September, we transferred to ALET Multi Academy Trust and continue to work with colleagues across the partnership with a common goal of delivering excellence through education and transforming lives through learning.

We will keep you informed of important developments during the year.

### Exam Results 2017

Undoubtedly, the highlight of the last few weeks, in fact for the academic year 2016-17, has been our fantastic exam results in a number of areas.

In the 6<sup>th</sup> Form, achievement exceeded last year's high level, with 60% of students achieving grades Distinction\* or Distinction in BTEC Engineering and IT, a 100% pass rate at A Level with 67% of grades at A\*-B.



## Highlights included:

- 3 x Distinction\* Kuba Arnold, Liam Goodhew, Tom Higgs, Bidhya Rai, Jordan Sanderson, Dan Tischer, Chris Williamson  
2 x Distinction\* Charlie Hall (also A grade Physics, B in Maths)



Charlie Hall has chosen to study Engineering at Cardiff and Bidhya Rai has opted for Civil Engineering at UWE. Kate Kerrane has joined the Royal Navy as an aeronautical engineering apprentice.

The majority of other students have secured apprenticeships or employment.

Not to be outdone, our Year 11 students produced some excellent results too, that compare extremely favourably with schools nationally. With the new 9-1 grading system in English and Maths, 55% of students achieved at least grade 4 (equivalent to old C grade) in English and 64% in Maths, the latter once more above national values. Even more encouraging was the proportion gaining the new grade at 5 or better (45% in English and 55% in Maths), with 45% achieving at least grade 5 in English and Maths, placing us as the 3<sup>rd</sup> highest performing UTC!

## Our students also excelled in STEM subjects:

Computing	71% grade C or better
Engineering	70% achieved a Level 2 Pass or better
Additional Science	68% achieved grade C or better
Core Science	64% achieved grade C or better

## Individual successes included:

- Lawrence James – 1xA\*, 2xDist\*, 3xA, 1x7, 1xB, 2x6  
Tom Whatley – 1x8, 1xDist\*, 1xA, 1xDist, 1x7, 2xB, 1xC  
Rebekah Stubbs – 2xDist, 1x8, 1x7, 2xB, 1x6, 3xC  
Maria Skevi – 1x8, 2xDist, 1x7, 2xB, 1x6, 3xC  
Joe Webb – 3x8, 1xDist\*, 1xA, 1xDist, 2xB, 1x6, 1xC



## UTC environment

We have spent much of the summer refreshing the inside of the college and students arrived back to bright colours and new signage as part of our joining ALET. Further furniture and equipment have been ordered to complete the transformation of UTC Swindon as a centre of learning excellence.

Students have been issued with new ID cards that they are expected to wear at all times, unless in the workshop. This is a health and safety requirement and their cards/lanyards make students instantly recognizable, as well as also allowing access to the building and for buying food and drink from the canteen. We are introducing Parent Pay to allow you to top up your child's balance online (more information to follow).

## **Parent Governor**

There is one vacancy as Parent Governor on the new Governing Body and if you are interested in this important role, please contact Reception ([info@utcswindon.co.uk](mailto:info@utcswindon.co.uk)) so that we can provide further information.

## **Key Dates**

<b>September</b>	
Wednesday 13 <sup>th</sup>	Year 13 MOD Lyneham visit
Friday 22 <sup>nd</sup>	6 <sup>th</sup> Form Bristol University visit
Tuesday 26 <sup>th</sup>	Year 11 Safe Drive Stay Alive roadshow (pm) Open Evening (5.30-7.30pm) Students finish at 3.40pm
Thursday 28 <sup>th</sup>	Year 11 GCSE Geography fieldtrip to Weston-super-mare (all day)

<b>October</b>	
Monday 2 <sup>nd</sup>	Year 12 NCS presentation
Thursday 5 <sup>th</sup>	Information/support Evening - all Years (5.30-8.30pm)
Friday 6 <sup>th</sup>	Year 10, 12, 13 University presentations
Monday 9 <sup>th</sup>	Network Rail presentation
Friday 13 <sup>th</sup>	Student Well-being Day
Wednesday 18 <sup>th</sup>	End of ½ term (5pm)
Monday 30 <sup>th</sup>	Return to college

As you can see, there has been much to celebrate and plenty to look forward to during 2017-18. I look forward to meeting with you later in the term.

Kind regards,



**Jon Oliver**  
**Principal**

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