

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS



UTC Swindon is a specialist STEM college. The curriculum is industry-led and designed to educate students with a passion for elements of Science, Technology, Engineering and/or Maths.

GCSEs

Students who study with us take all the Sciences, Maths, English language and English literature, as well as specialist GCSE equivalent qualifications in Engineering and Digital Technology.

Four-year education

Students are encouraged to see this as a four-year education and be successful in their Sixth Form studies.

The Sixth Form curriculum offers three pathways:

A-levels

Specialist Engineering
/ Digital Technology
diplomas

Combined route

STEM learning habits

All students are expected to embrace six STEM habits of mind:

Responsibility

Resilience

Communication skills

Creative problem solving

Curiosity

Teamwork

Independence and responsibility

Year 10 and 11 students are not set homework but will be expected to complete independent study and especially revision in preparation for internal/external examinations.

Students are responsible for getting themselves to where they need to be at the correct times.

Training and enrichment

All students are required to participate in extra training and enrichment during the college day. Training allows students to gain additional skills, awards, and qualifications.

A wide range of enrichment activities are offered to students to choose from: Duke of Edinburgh, reverse engineering, sport and strategic board games to name just a few. Sixth Form students too have training and enrichment as part of their timetables.

Local skills gap

UTC Swindon is here to help solve the skills gap in the area. There is currently a lack of school leavers with appropriate skills to go into STEM careers and University courses.

In addition, there are extensive opportunities for girls in STEM as companies are looking to recruit more women to fulfil vital roles.

Importance of Maths

UTC Swindon students need to enjoy maths because it forms such a large and important part of our curriculum.

Longer days

UTC Swindon operates a longer day and a greater number of lessons per week and students must be resilient enough to cope with the longer day.

Year 10 and 11 students start college lessons promptly at 8.30am (first lesson) and finish at 15.40 every day.

Standards of behaviour

UTC Swindon is a calm, ordered and adult learning environment because all students are expected to demonstrate excellent learning behaviours at all times, along with excellent attendance and punctuality.

All of these are regarded as essential life skills that are demanded by all of our employer partners in the transition into future employment.