

## End of Term Newsletter

Dear UTC Family,

Well, what a busy year we have all had! We have worked tirelessly after spells of covid and uncertainty to continue on our quest to be the best UTC in the country and the best secondary school in the city. With limited resources, staff and students have upcycled our school site, created extra spaces and welcomed many new students. As our reputation grows, so do we and I am delighted to say that we are now full with waiting lists in all year groups aside from our new Year 9! This is because people want to be a part of UTC Plymouth - STEAM Academy and why wouldn't you? We have visited Drake's Island, managed a trip to Adrenaline Quarry, sailed on Tectona, started an Eco School, welcomed our partners for an inspiring careers fair, appointed nearly 30 new staff, started football training with Year 9, won external prizes and that's not to mention shifting 90 tonnes of gravel! We have made memories to last a lifetime and we couldn't be prouder of how our students have adapted and exhibited our core values of: Resilience, Respect, Dedication, Professional, and Discipline.

### Key Dates:

**Staff return:** September 6th

**Uniform Collection:** Tuesday 7th and Wednesday, 8th of September 10am - 4pm

**Open Day:** Please promote us and let us know if you can help: Sat 11th Sept 9am-1pm

**Years 8, 10, 11, 13** will return to school on September 13th 8.40am

**Year 7 Transition Day:** 9th September 9am-2pm

**Year 9 Transition Day:** 10th September 9am-2pm

**Year 12 Transition and return:** 10th September 8.40am-1.10pm

**Result's Day:** August 12th 9am-12pm

### Uniform

We continue to listen to our students and have introduced a few more options when it comes to our uniform such as cardigans, sweatshirts, branded sports leggings and branded PE shorts. However, our essential/compulsory wear is still the same and consists of steel toe capped boots for any time spent in the workshops, (Students will not be permitted into these spaces without the correct PPE which will negatively impact on their ability to learn and apply their Engineering skills), plain all black trainers/shoes with no colours or white flashes, plain black cargo trousers or shorts, a UTC hoodie/sweatshirt and UTC t shirt/polo shirt. With regards to PE, students are permitted to wear their PE kit on PE days. However, only the UTC Tracksuit, UTC shorts or UTC leggings can be worn for the entire day. We have introduced a new style tracksuit so check it out - it's lovely! Plain black tracksuit bottoms/shorts can be worn for PE but must be changed into for lessons only. Students who do not have the PE kit will be expected to wear their normal uniform to school and change later for their PE lesson. Students cannot partake in PE in their normal school uniform.

### Equipment

Students are expected to attend college equipped with the following items: Pencil case, pen, pencil, ruler, rubber, sharpener and scientific calculator. Coloured pens or highlighters are beneficial but optional. It is vital that all students are equipped for lessons as this enables them to learn and make the most of every minute. Organisation and being prepared are important life skills needed when entering the workplace which is one of our key objectives in ensuring our young people are ready for

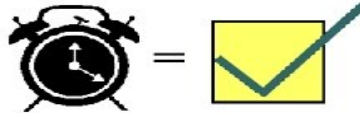
this transition. To support, we will be opening a school shop on site for equipment and some uniform items. More details to follow on this in September.

### Attendance and Punctuality

Attendance and punctuality to school is vital and are key factors in a young person's ability to be successful. Whilst we appreciate there will be occasions when a student is sick, we would rather they attend where possible. If unwell and unable to attend school, please make sure you call reception before 9.30am for each day of the illness stating the reason for absence. We politely request that 'unwell' is not the reason for illness but that a full explanation is given. Any student with attendance below 90% will be classed as a persistent absentee and could be subject to legal action.

Students need to arrive at school no later than 8.35am for an 8.40am start. School is open from 7.45am for breakfast clubs. Any students who arrive late will make up this time in our 'time owed' after school session each Monday. Parents will be informed on the Friday before by your child's Pastoral Lead or Mentor with students being reminded on Monday morning.

## Every Minute Counts



Lateness = Lost Learning	
*(Figures below are calculated over a school year)	
5 minutes late each day	3 days lost!
10 minutes late each day	6.5 days lost!
15 minutes late each day	10 days lost!
20 minutes late each day	13 days lost!
30 minutes late each day	19 days lost!



### Danger Zone:

**As few as 19 missed days over the school year reduces your chances of success. Your GCSE results could drop by one grade across all subjects!**

### Phone Policy

Our phone policy will continue as it currently stands. ALL students must hand their phones in each day and will collect these at the end of each day from their Mentor or Pastoral Leads. Students will not have access to their phones during the day as they will be locked away. Students who bring their mobile phones to school do so at their own risk. If you need to get an urgent message to your child during the day, please call or email our reception team on 01752 284250, [reception@utcplymouth.org](mailto:reception@utcplymouth.org)

### UTC Parent Ambassadors

We continue to be blown away by the support and understanding of our parents. You really are a force to be reckoned with and are getting an amazing reputation in our community for your passionate,

vocal support of UTC Plymouth. We could not believe the promotion of our school on Gossip Girls as just one example. Another example of your commitment has been your attendance to parent events, both virtual and onsite as well as your support during lockdowns. Even when your young person may not be having the best of times, you always work with us and support what we are trying to achieve: developing kind, articulate, skilled human beings. With this in mind we like to see if there would be any interest in starting our own parent/teacher group? If so, we aim to hold regular meetings to use your voice in key school decisions and hopefully organisation of events and fundraising. If you are interested, please email [reception@utcplymouth.org](mailto:reception@utcplymouth.org)

### New School Day

After listening to our student ambassadors, we have decided to change the lengths of break and lunch times.

### UTC Plymouth School Day Timings 2021/2022

Times	Years 7,8	Times	Year 9	Times	Years 10,11, Sixth Form
8.00am	Breakfast Club (Optional)	8.00am	Breakfast Club (Optional)	8.00am	Breakfast Club (Optional)
8.40am	Briefing	8.40am	Briefing	8.40am	Briefing
9.00am	Period 1	9.00am	Period 1	9.00am	Period 1
10.00am	Break	10.00am	Period 2	10.00am	Period 2
10.30am	Period 2	11.00am	Break	11.00am	Break
11.30am	Period 3	11.30am	Period 3	11.30am	Period 3
12.25pm	Lunch	12.25pm	Period 4	12.25pm	Period 4
13.00pm	Period 4	13.20pm	Lunch	13.20pm	Lunch
13.55pm	Period 5	13.55pm	Period 5	13.55pm	Period 5
14.50pm	Students return to base: DAILY DEBRIEF	14.50pm	Students return to base: DAILY DEBRIEF	14.50pm	Period 6
15:00pm	End of day- College open for private study	15:00pm	End of day- College open for private study	15.45pm	End of day- College open for private study

**Summer Celebration**

Please find attached a copy of our Summer Celebration that was delivered virtually. As always, we are proud of all of our students but we love to celebrate those that go above and beyond.

[https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/e/2PACX-1vRIJG7PCccDm6bYzVoLYzNzCkKaQh\\_ye1ADqGkidOgXthBtceTaLv4vuxhje7qm\\_6Y7B\\_MfyZ1xWDZm/pub?start=true&loop=false&delayms=10000](https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/e/2PACX-1vRIJG7PCccDm6bYzVoLYzNzCkKaQh_ye1ADqGkidOgXthBtceTaLv4vuxhje7qm_6Y7B_MfyZ1xWDZm/pub?start=true&loop=false&delayms=10000)

Have a fantastic break and we will see you very soon

Jo and Team UTC.