



Newsletter

February Half Term 2021

Principal's Welcome



**Amanda Downing,
Associate Principal**

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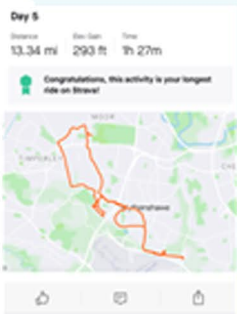
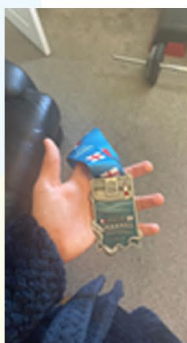
Last week was the final week of a very strange half term. I have been so proud of the way every member of our community has pulled together in these difficult times, including students, parents, staff and governors of UTC Warrington. I hope that everyone is enjoying a relaxing break this week.

The Prime Minister has announced that he hopes schools will return on 8 March. We will keep parents informed when we have further information.

This last half term has seen so much going on, from our students accessing lots of employer engagement, through to our continued virtual online work experience, as well as National Apprenticeship Week. It was also good to see staff and students participating in Children's Mental Health Week and our UTC 'No Screen Hour' where students took part in a range of activities away from their screen in order to promote their mental health.

You can find out more about what has been happening and what makes our UTC so special below.

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COVID-19 Positive Case Phone Number and Information Form



We have a dedicated COVID-19 telephone number in order for parents to inform us if their child (if they are attending school at the moment) has received a positive COVID-19 test.

The phone number is Mr P Rigby on: 07493 561395

REMOTE TEACHING AND LEARNING

The school day

Our remote learning provision follows the normal school timetable. A reminder of times of the school day are below.

Monday – Thursday timetable	
9.00am-10.00am	Lesson 1
10.00am -11.00am	Lesson 2
11.00am-11.20am	break
11.20am-12.20pm	Lesson 4
12.20pm-1.00pm	Lunch
1.00pm-2.00pm	Lesson 5

Friday timetable	
9.00am	Assembly
9.30am-10.30am	Lesson 1
10.30am-11.30am	Lesson 2
11.30am-12.00pm	Brunch
12.00pm-1.00pm	Lesson 3
1.00pm-2.00pm	Lesson 4

Students must log onto their Teams live lesson at the start of each lesson to obtain their attendance mark. They will then be directed accordingly. Remote learning may take a number of approaches. These are dependent upon the subject and outlined below.

Live Lessons – Live lessons through Microsoft Teams for students to engage in

Pre-recorded Lessons – Pre-recorded content shared prior to the lesson with tasks for students to work through. Staff will be available to guide students in the chat.

Live Starter – Live starter section of the lesson to introduce lesson and explain tasks. Students then sent to independently complete tasks. Staff will be available to guide students in the chat.

Class Notebook – Resources such as worksheets, PowerPoints or electronic booklets to be shared on Class Notebook. Staff will be available to guide students in the chat.

External Resources – Links shared to Oak National Academy, Greenshaw Learning Trust, Hegarty Maths, Seneca etc. Staff will be available to guide students in the chat.

Engagement

Attendance at remote lessons has been excellent and it is great to see so much student engagement. Just a reminder that logging onto Teams lessons is only the first step. Students must actively take part in the lessons, engage when asked and, most importantly, submit work by the deadline sets. In the first instance, subject teachers will contact parents when students have failed to complete work or not engaged in lessons. Continued disengagement from online learning will result in a meeting with the senior team.

Top tip – if you have no microphone on your laptop or tablet, then download the Teams app to your smartphone and use the microphone in your phone.

Response to Parent Survey on Remote Learning

Below are some of the excellent comments from parents on the UTC's remote learning provision:

***‘The support has been excellent.
Early intervention has helped
note issues with attendance.’***

***‘The work content
is well organised.’***

‘Using Teams for online interactive lessons is excellent.’

***‘Early intervention from mentor.
Support has been welcomed
and shows real empathy and
care for the success of each
individual student.’***

***‘Love that the teachers are
"teaching" rather than just
setting work, my son seems
more engaged this way.’***

Response to Student Survey on Remote Learning

Having a voice lesson with shared screen so I can see the work. Having staff members actually communicate with me is a major help as well.

I am enjoying the virtual meetings, as I can still contribute in lessons and ask the teacher questions in real time whilst staying safe at home. In Mr Twist's lessons I am also enjoying technology allowing for student teachers to still teach informative and effective lessons.

ENGINEERING



Year 11 are focusing on Unit 7 Learning aim A for Machining Techniques drilling and turning a small-scale hammer and preparing their report for Learning aim B to manufacture the hammer.

Year 10 are developing Unit 1 The Engineering World and Unit 2 Investigating an Engineering Product, in preparation for a new course we will be starting prior to summer for BTEC Level 1/2 Tech Award in Engineering consisting of very similar units of work.

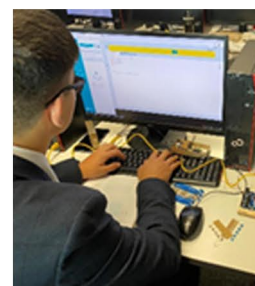
Year 12 are developing Unit 4 Applied Commercial and Quality Principles, researching how two companies operate and trade to seek a competitive advantage for Learning aim A. Year 12 are also studying Unit 45 Additive Manufacturing, researching two different types of 3D printers for their function, applications and safety. Additionally, Unit 1 Principles, a mathematical unit.



Year 13 are developing Unit 24 Maintenance of Mechanical Systems, researching the different lubricants required to maintain manual lathes for the leadscrew and gearbox, including information about conducting maintenance. Also, Unit 25 Mechanical Behaviour of Metallic Materials, researching different types of metals, properties and characteristics ready to develop their knowledge about different testing of the materials. Alongside this they are studying Unit 7 Calculus, a mathematical unit.

CONSTRUCTION

Year 10 & 11 Construction are working on completing their Unit 2 assignment A, which focuses on the work of the Construction Industry. For BTEC Civil Engineering, Years 12 & 13 are completing their work on Unit 4 (Construction Technology). All re-submissions are due to be completed by the end of the first week back after the break.



ENGLISH

Year 11 have been studying a variety of poems from both classic and contemporary poets. They have completed two practice examinations on the literature poetry component. There have been detailed and analytical pieces of which I am very proud. We have also looked at the specific questions and skills needed for English language paper 2. We have been debating issues such as longer school holidays, which we all support!

Year 11 poetic genius awards go to: Dan Howard, Poliina Bondareva, Luke Flannagan and Charlie Barton.

The Award for most contributions goes to Harley Gallop.

Joanna Smith, Evie Burke, Oksana Rodnova, Jess Eley and Dylan Sanders are working brilliantly.

Year 10 have just started to look at poetry from the Power and Conflict anthology. Students are beginning to understand themes and analyse the poet's intentions. We have also been studying non-fiction texts on topics such as the death penalty and the Moors Murderers.

Top contributors for Year 10: Robin Middlehurst, Angeliza Robinson, Tom Allen, Aron Loftus, Lucas Lockwood, Callum Mackie, Ethan Fuller.

Outstanding work: Ethan Fuller, Lee Kendall, Tom Allen, Carlo Driver, Dan Pastor, Sophie Tomlinson, Beth Cutler, Katie Bretherton.

Massive thank you to all those pupils who join the online lessons and complete their work.

COMPUTER SCIENCE

Students have adapted brilliantly to remote learning this half term and have been working on the following topics. Year 10 have been working on Ethics, where we have looked at the Environmental impact of Computer Science and the way it impacts our lives in a positive and negative way.

Year 11 have been working on Cyber Security, where they have looked at the ways Cyber Criminals can exploit people and organisations. Enrichment Opportunity:

<https://www.immersivelabs.com/> Please register for this and complete the challenges. You need to register with your UTC email address.

GEOGRAPHY



Year 10

Year 10 have been investigating the recent flooding events that took place in Warrington. We have examined the factors that increase flood risk and also evaluating the hard and soft engineering strategies that we can implement to reduce the impact of flooding across the UK. Huge shout out to Bethany Cutler and Tom Allen for continued excellence in every lesson.



Year 11

Year 11 students have been learning about the living world. We have been examining the causes and impact of deforestation in the rainforests of Malaysia and also the characteristics and issues that are faced by people living in desert environments. As always, we have investigated the solutions we can put into place to help solve some of the challenges faced in these extreme environments. Big shout out to Daniel Howard and Poliina Bondereva for superb effort in every lesson this half term.



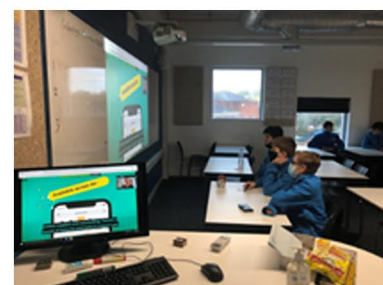
Bored this half term? Check out the new series by David Attenborough, Perfect Planet. All available on BBC iPlayer.

NATIONAL APPRENTICESHIP WEEK

This week UTC Warrington has been taking part in National Apprenticeship Week. Students have been working with employers who have been promoting the great work of their apprentices, whilst highlighting the many benefits apprenticeships bring to their business.

Work Experience Virtually with NMCN are continuing to meet via Teams and developing their project for the dry well and wet well pumping system.

DATS work experience students are developing design ideas and liaising with link employer with their developments.



Staying Connected with UTC Warrington

During this current lockdown period a number of our services are being manned by staff working from home, which may affect the service from time to time. Apologies for any delays this may cause, however we wanted to reassure you and let you know methods of communication helping parents and staff to stay connected during this time.

UTC Phone lines staffed during the hours below:

UTC College direct line: 01925 737067

8:00am – 4:00pm Monday –Thursday

8:00am – 1:30pm Friday



Please leave a voicemail if you are unable to get through and someone will contact you.

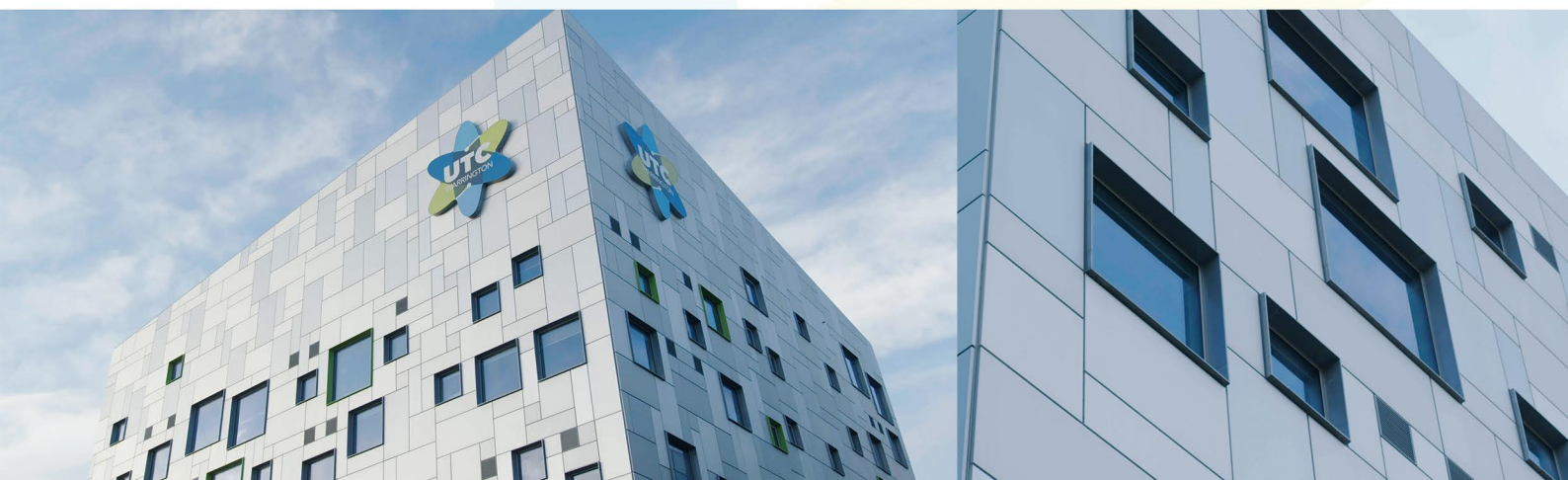
Visitors to the building

The college site is open during college hours for some staff and students, however we are asking that all parents/carers do not attend the site and if contact is required in person this is arranged via an appointment with the relevant member of staff.

Other ways to communicate

Email - please use the email addresses below for the relevant queries:

- **Parentenquiries@utcw.co.uk** – current student parent/carer enquiries regarding online learning, student finance and all other support.
- **Attendance@utcw.co.uk** – to log if your son/daughter is unwell or any other attendance related matters.
- **info@utcw.co.uk** – all other queries



MENTAL HEALTH AND WELLBEING

Bridgewater Community Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust, one of our Healthcare employer partners, is beginning the roll out of a new secure text messaging service for parents and carers of children and young people aged 0-19 years old, enabling them to get timely and trusted health advice from a health professional (a Health Visitor or School Nurse).



As our lives have changed over the last few months due to coronavirus, it's more important than ever for young people and families to have easy access to support, particularly in the absence of face to face interaction.

The service (which is available in Warrington, Halton and Oldham) does not aim to replace face-to-face contacts, but rather to increase choice for service users about how they access advice from a health professional, and it provides a new line of communication as face-to-face contact is reduced.



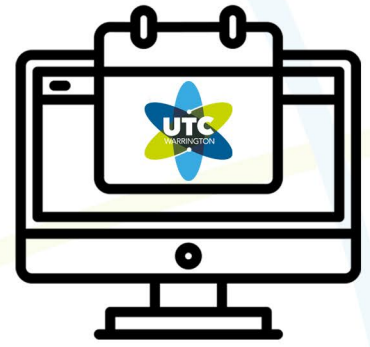
The **ChatHealth** text number will operate Monday-Friday from 9am until 5pm. Messages will be responded to within 24 hours during this period. Outside these hours, service users will receive a 'bounce back' text message indicating that they will receive a response when the line re-opens. Of course, ChatHealth is not an emergency service, and accordingly parents will be instructed to follow usual advice in seeking urgent medical attention.

The text numbers for Warrington are:

- 11 - 19 Young People's Service – 07507 330101
- 0 - 5 Parents Service – 07507 327981
- 5 - 19 Parents Service – 07480 635994

Or visit chathealth.nhs.uk to start a chat.

UPCOMING VIRTUAL EVENTS...



**25th
FEBRUARY**

Meet the Head of Key Stage 4:
<http://bit.ly/UTCWMEETKS4>

**4th
MARCH**

Meet the DIGITAL Faculty Leader:
<http://bit.ly/UTCWMEETDIGITAL>

**18th
MARCH**

**Meet the HEALTH CARE &
SCIENCE Faculty Leader:**
<http://bit.ly/UTCWMEETHEALTH>

**25th
MARCH**

**Meet the CONSTRUCTION & BUILT
ENVIRONMENT Faculty Leader:**
<http://bit.ly/UTCWMEETCONSTRUCTION>

**1st
APRIL**

**Meet the ENGINEERING
Faculty Leader:**
<http://bit.ly/UTCWMEETENGINEERING>

KEY CONTACTS



Safeguarding	Jemma Chilton:	JChilton@UTCW.co.uk
Reporting Attendance	Paul Rigby:	Attendance@UTCW.co.uk
Pastoral Team	Andy Johnson:	AJohnson@UTCW.co.uk
SEND	Sam Lee:	SLee@UTCW.co.uk
Finance, Free School Meals & Parent Pay	Lindsey Devine:	LDevine@UTCW.co.uk



Young Minds Hepfinder for Parents

Times are tough for many people right now. Parents find themselves pulled in many different direction and children may be struggling being in the house for so much longer than usual. A mixture of concern about COVID, work from home and children at home, along with a possible financial impact, can make for a stressful household.

Young Minds have created a useful 'Supporting Parents Helpfinder'. By answering six questions, parents can find out how to support their child's mental health during the pandemic (and beyond).

Find the help finder here: <http://bit.ly/3tUpNwR>

TERM DATES 2020/21

TERM

Autumn Half Term 1
Autumn Half Term 2
Spring Half Term 1
Spring Half Term 2*
Summer Half Term 1**
Inset day
Summer Half Term 2***

DATE OF OPENING

Wednesday 2nd September 2020
Monday 2nd November 2020
Monday 4th January 2021
Monday 22nd February 2021
Monday 12th April 2021
Friday 26th June
Monday 7th June 2021

DATE OF CLOSING

Friday 23rd October 2020
Friday 18th December 2020
Friday 12th February 2021
Thursday 1st April 2021
Friday 28th May 2021
Friday 9th July 2021





utcw.co.uk

**Keep up to date with the latest information
on our social media platforms...**



UTCWarrington



@UTCWarrington



utc_warrington