

UTC OXFORDSHIRE PROSPECTUS ●

| 2022-23



DISCOVER A NEW WORLD OF OPPORTUNITIES

Our aim is to become a world-class centre of excellence in science and engineering education for students aged 14 to 19.

Our students will be well known for having the skills, attitudes, behaviours, knowledge and experience that the world's leading employers are looking for. You will be well connected with access to over 40 industry partners; locally based national and international organisations such as UK Atomic Energy Authority, RM Education and MINI Plant Oxford, which will give you access to great opportunities for employment and sponsorship.



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THE FACILITIES ON OFFER HERE, COUPLED WITH THE LEVEL OF EXPERIMENTS THE STUDENTS ARE COMPLETING, MAKE THIS SCHOOL UNIQUE.

GIVEN THE IMPORTANCE OF SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING TO OUR ECONOMY, AND THE POTENTIAL SKILLS SHORTAGE IN THESE AREAS, THE IDEA OF A SCHOOL LIKE THIS IS OBVIOUS AND YET IT TAKES SOMEONE TO ACTUALLY DO IT. THAT IS THE GENIUS OF THE PLACE, THAT SOMEONE HAS GOT THE CONCEPT UP AND RUNNING AND THAT THEY ARE DELIVERING THE CURRICULUM IN PARTNERSHIP WITH ORGANISATIONS SUCH AS THE SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY FACILITIES COUNCIL.

OUR COUNTRY IS THE BEST IN THE WORLD WHEN IT COMES TO THE EFFICIENCY OF OUR SCIENCE RESEARCH AND WE NEED MORE YOUNG PEOPLE WITH THE SKILLS TO SUSTAIN THIS POSITION. SCHOOLS LIKE THIS CAN HELP BY OPENING UP ACCESS BETWEEN STUDENTS AND INDUSTRY ”

Professor Brian Cox,
UTC Oxfordshire's official
opening event 2016

BE INSPIRED

As you approach the beginning of your GCSEs or Sixth Form studies, you'll be facing some important choices about your learning. Getting these decisions right will set you on the path to a great career. We're really pleased that you're thinking of coming to UTC Oxfordshire and want to share some of the possibilities that the UTC can create for you.

Science and engineering are important sectors for the economy in Oxfordshire. The area has high employment rates and is the base for many national and global companies. UTC Oxfordshire offers high-quality and innovative education for students aged 14 to 19 that will help you take advantage of career opportunities in the region's science and engineering sectors.

UTC Oxfordshire is a very special place, created through a partnership between industry and education. Our proven approach to the curriculum, grounded in traditional values, will provide a great foundation for your future.

With us, you will be able to follow your areas of interest in either science or engineering while studying GCSE, A Level, or BTEC qualifications and learn invaluable practical skills from the best in the industry. We are confident that students who attend UTC Oxfordshire will be given the best start in a variety of progression routes into employment and further or higher education.

UTC Oxfordshire will offer you something different, and we expect you to want something different:

- » **To follow your interest in either science or engineering while studying for your GCSEs, A Level or BTEC qualifications**
- » **To learn differently through our employer-led projects and challenges set by our industry partners**
- » **To want the best chance of moving into employment or further and higher education in your chosen field**

If you enjoy learning through doing, want to benefit from the latest technology in learning and be in an environment that feels more like being at work than school, then UTC Oxfordshire could be for you.

We hope our guide will inspire you to find out more about the great opportunities we have to offer at UTC Oxfordshire and we would warmly welcome you to join us in September.



Sam Knowlton
Principal



Emma Reynolds
Vice Principal

WELCOME TO ACTIVATE LEARNING EDUCATION TRUST

Activate Learning Education Trust is a Multi Academy Trust (MAT) established by Activate Learning, which is run with the support of a number of industry and academic partners.

We transform lives through learning by providing exciting and innovative education for young people.

OUR VISION

Transforming lives through learning

OUR MISSION

To 'transform lives through learning' by igniting confidence, expanding opportunities, energising the community and generating prosperity. Through our Learning Philosophy and core values of empowerment, enterprise, connectedness and transformation, we will provide our students and staff with a safe and supportive environment in which to thrive.

OUR VALUES

Empowerment, enterprise, connectedness and transformation



ACTIVATE LEARNING EDUCATION TRUST'S CORE PURPOSE IS TO DELIVER EXCELLENT TEACHING, LEARNING AND ASSESSMENT AND A HIGH-QUALITY LEARNER EXPERIENCE, UNDERPINNED BY HIGH EXPECTATIONS AND FOSTERING HIGH ASPIRATIONS FOR ALL.

UTC OXFORDSHIRE PROVIDES A HIGH-QUALITY TECHNICAL EDUCATION, CO-CREATED WITH EMPLOYERS, GIVING STUDENTS A CLEAR LINE OF SIGHT TO WORK. THROUGH THE LEARNING PHILOSOPHY, STUDENTS ARE ABLE TO FULFIL THEIR POTENTIAL AND DEVELOP INTO POSITIVE, MOTIVATED, EMPLOYABLE YOUNG PEOPLE WHEN THEY LEAVE EDUCATION



Joanne Harper,
CEO, Activate Learning Education Trust



OUR LEARNING PHILOSOPHY

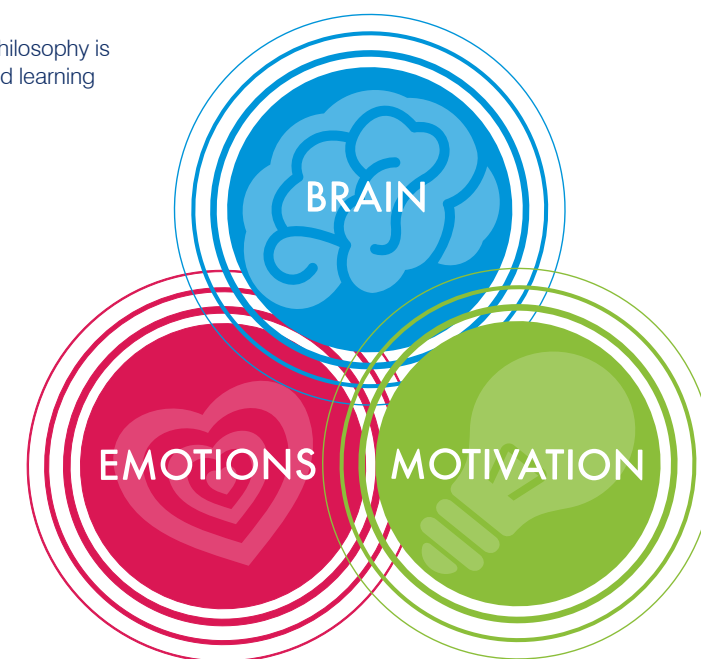
The ALET Learning Philosophy has been developed by members of the Activate Learning group and recognises three essential elements for effective learning:

- » **BRAIN** – our brains are capable of incredible things. From the study of neuroscience we know how the brain forms networks and how learning takes place when neurons connect. We know how to deepen these connections through ongoing practice and how to replace poor learning with good habits.
- » **MOTIVATION** – while our brains may be capable of learning anything, we are only likely to use them if we are motivated to do so. Our approach to learning helps to demonstrate the relevance and impact of new skills and knowledge so that students maintain motivation.
- » **EMOTIONS** – the biggest barrier to effective learning is our emotional response. Learning involves taking risks and students must feel safe, secure and confident to do this.

This philosophy translates into an educational experience which offers:

- » opportunities to test new skills through practical, real-world projects
- » experiences of work which demonstrate the relevance and impact of knowledge
- » a focus on developing independent learning skills, communication and teamwork
- » a supportive learning environment which encourages students to take risks and learn from mistakes

Find out more about how our Learning Philosophy is inspiring new approaches to teaching and learning throughout this prospectus.



WHAT IS A UNIVERSITY TECHNICAL COLLEGE?

A UTC is different from the average school because it has support and backing from local, high-profile industry partners who are involved in the development of the curriculum. Each UTC also has academic partners who help make sure that it really can offer students the best of both worlds.

This means you can take advantage of a UTC's specialist subjects while still taking the GCSEs, A Levels or BTECs that you would at school.

UTCs are for students aged 14 to 19, as this is the age when you'll have a better idea of what you are really interested in and whether you would enjoy learning in a more high-tech environment.

The UK needs advanced technical skills at all levels if we are to prosper. Whether in manufacturing, wind farms, rail links or high-tech hospitals, we need a workforce that can develop new products, stretch and reuse existing resources and meet the challenges of the future.

Find out more: www.utcolleges.org



University
Technical
Colleges®

Yasmine Girgis, UTC Oxfordshire alumna and current apprentice at Jaguar Land Rover

"The whole experience here at the UTC made it really worthwhile; the facilities are obviously amazing, which normal schools don't have, but also the staff here are so respectful to you and this makes for a really nice learning environment. If you show focus and have a good work ethic then the teachers will happily help you out. There is a really good relationship between students and teachers here. They want you to enhance your knowledge, so it's not only about what's on the syllabus, but also a wider range of things from their personal experiences of working in industry. You may not particularly need to know these things at this stage but it helps you to see a wider picture."

"The motivation from my tutors and teachers is what helped me to get the apprenticeship as they aren't just satisfied with making sure you have somewhere to go after the UTC; they want to make sure that it works for you and gives you a challenge. They push you to understand all the options that are available to you, so that you can choose the best option."



CASE STUDY

£77
BILLION

PHYSICS-BASED BUSINESSES
ACCOUNT FOR MORE THAN ONE
MILLION JOBS IN THE UK AND
CONTRIBUTE £77 BILLION TO
THE UK ECONOMY



UTC OXFORDSHIRE

Free and non-selective, UTC Oxfordshire specialises in life sciences, physical sciences and engineering, alongside a broad and balanced curriculum.

Do you want to:

- » learn more about science and/or engineering in a hi-tech environment?
- » have a career where your skills will be in demand?
- » gain specialist skills and knowledge relevant for industry, but keep more general options open too?
- » be sure of a route into further education, university, employment or an apprenticeship?
- » move on from your secondary school because you are ready for exciting real-world learning?

- » study in a professional, work-like environment?
- » complete homework and assignments during the working day leaving you with spare time to pursue your other interests?
- » learn in a relatively small community and enjoy plenty of individual help when you need it?
- » have the opportunity to develop all round interests, including sport, music or languages?

If you answered yes to any of the above, then UTC Oxfordshire could be for you.



A very warm welcome to UTC Oxfordshire. The governors are proud of our school community which continues to develop its own sense of identity and confidence. Excellent staff and students are at the heart of this. Care and support is tailored to each student's needs, providing the right environment and opportunity that maximises their earning and attainment potential. Strong links with tertiary education organisations and industry also offer the greatest possible opportunities beyond college. This UTC brings together community and education, and it is the governors privilege to serve in this place



Billy McNeil,
Chair of Governors



Key facts for parents and carers:

- » There are no tests required for students to be accepted into UTC Oxfordshire
- » No more than 600 students will be accepted, with class sizes limited to 25 students to ensure that the ratio of teachers to students remains low
- » The school day typically runs from 8.30am to 4pm
- » The school year follows a pattern similar to that of other local secondary schools
- » UTC Oxfordshire offers a strong pastoral care system, allowing each student to be known and developed by every member of staff
- » Curriculum content is shaped through the partnership of employers and universities and developed in-line with government requirements
- » Students gain well-known qualifications that are recognised by employers and universities
- » The technology that students use is industry standard

“There are very high rates of progression to higher education and apprenticeships.” Ofsted, 2018

Alumni student, Goncalo, secured a place on the prestigious Flying Start Programme between Newcastle University, Price Waterhouse Cooper (PWC) and Institute of Chartered Accountants.

“I joined UTC Oxfordshire back in year 10, as one of the pioneer students. I saw it as an investment into my future. The best thing is the environment—you are learning with people that actually want to learn and do well.”

“I could see how many opportunities were available and I went for it. It turned out to be a great investment.”



THE UK NEEDS TO BOOST ITS HIGH-SKILLS BASE TO GENERATE LONG-TERM GROWTH AND KEEP PACE GLOBALLY. UTCs ARE ONE OF THE KEYS TO BRIDGING THE GAP— GIVING TOP-CLASS VOCATIONAL EDUCATION WHICH EQUIP YOUNG PEOPLE FOR WORK AND LIFE. WE ARE DELIGHTED TO BACK AN EXCELLENT INITIATIVE TO BOOST THE REGIONAL ECONOMY AND HELP TRANSFORM YOUNG PEOPLE'S LIVES



Professor Gavin Brooks, Pro-Vice-Chancellor
(Teaching and Learning), University of Reading

CASE STUDY



WOMEN IN STEM

UTC Oxfordshire is an inclusive learning environment, and that includes providing opportunities for girls who want to build a career in STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths) industries.

CASE STUDY



Jenna - Alumni

"I joined UTC Oxfordshire in Year 10 and was in the first cohort of students, when the college opened. I joined because I love science and the school I was at didn't really push that. When I heard there was somewhere I could go where science could be my main focus, I knew it was for me."

"This year I have accepted a work experience placement with one of our employer partners, Vertex Pharmaceuticals and on completion of my sixth form studies I plan to study for a joint biology and maths qualification at university."

"Coming to UTC Oxfordshire as a female wasn't a big change for me. I came from a mixed school so it didn't feel too different. When I started here I wasn't very confident; that soon changed, with the support of the students and staff."

"I think it's important to get more girls into STEM-related careers if that is their passion. It can be off-putting when you look at the stats of the divide, but if you have a real interest in it, do it."

"My advice to any girls looking to come here would be to try it. Look around and meet our Principal and Head of Sixth Form. When you interview with them, you'll get a feel for if it is the right fit. The long days and travel may not be for you, but you won't know unless you come and see. As soon as I walked in on my first day I fell in love with it. I knew it was the right decision and have never looked back."

FEMALE STUDENTS DID BETTER IN
2019 AT GETTING A* AND A GRADES
THAN MALES DID IN

PHYSICS AND COMPUTING

THERE ARE
NOW ABOUT
350,000
MORE WOMEN IN
CORE-STEM THAN
THERE WERE A
DECADE AGO

Katrina - Alumni

"My experience of learning in a traditionally male-dominated field was something I got used to really quickly. It was a little strange at first having mainly boys as friends, when I was used to all girl groups, but at the UTC, the girls stick together and we've bonded really well."

"In the past, engineering hasn't been recognised as an obvious career choice for females. You look around and it is filled with men, which makes the women that do work in this field stand out. We need to change the ratio and encourage more women into STEM."

"If you're interested in these subjects, give them a go. They may appear scary at first, but they're really not. The teachers are great and there are so many fantastic opportunities that you just wouldn't get anywhere else."

CASE STUDY



WISE - WOMEN IN ENGINEERING

Science and engineering excellence at UTC Oxfordshire is an ideal place for starting your career in engineering and science. Our inclusive environment and supportive staff ensure that we provide opportunities for our girls to access the opportunities to work in industries that have historically been male dominated. UTC Oxfordshire is based in an area with a rich and diverse selection of specialist industries that are keen to increase the diversity of their employees.

Employers are actively searching for women to enter science and engineering roles and to remove unconscious bias. UTC Oxfordshire gives our female scientists and engineers unique opportunities to make connections, work with and prepare for their future careers in STEM industries.

The WISE campaign aims to promote diversity in the workplace providing advantages to employers:

- » Better choice of skilled workers
- » Better platform for innovation and creativity
- » Better workforce productivity
- » Better customer experience
- » Better customer experience

<https://www.wisecampaign.org.uk/>



LEARN FOR THE REAL WORLD

Our aim is to become a world-class centre of excellence in science and engineering education for 14 to 19 year olds who are committed to succeeding in these areas.

Our students are known for having the skills, attitudes, behaviours, knowledge and experience that the world's leading employers are looking for. You will be well connected with our industry partners; locally based national and international organisations such as UK Atomic Energy Authority, Oxford Space Systems and MINI Plant Oxford, which will give you access to great opportunities for employment and sponsorship.

The learning experience

Your learning experience at UTC Oxfordshire will be practical and engaging. You will attend lessons and seminars to learn about new topics, as well as project-based and practical learning.

You'll also have plenty of time and quiet desk space to complete your independent study tasks. There will always be someone on hand to help if you get stuck and at the end of the day you often go home without homework to do. Of course, like anyone with a rewarding job, you'll take your interests home with you, and we can't promise that you won't sometimes want to do a bit of extra reading or research.

Because our day is longer, you will need to take greater responsibility for your own time. As well as being part of our broad curriculum, it will help you to enjoy life and to build up strong practical and social skills.

"Partnerships with innovative employers and industry experts provide a wealth of rich and well-focused learning experiences. These underpin the UTC's engaging curriculum for science and engineering." Ofsted, June 2018

The learning environment

When our students leave the UTC and enter employment, they need to feel confident to work both independently and collaboratively in a professional environment. You therefore will spend a large part of your working week at the UTC experiencing and gaining skills in a similar context. Group project work will take place in our purpose-built laboratories and workshops and you will complete your own study tasks in our independent learning spaces.

Employer-led learning

Leading local employers are behind UTC Oxfordshire. They help us to design and deliver project-based learning using real life issues and design challenges. By working with an employer on an industry-relevant project, you will build the relevant skill sets, plus meet industry standards and expectations which will prepare you for life in the workplace.



MY SON HAS NEVER BEEN SO HAPPY, MOTIVATED, STRETCHED AND FULFILLED AT SCHOOL AS HE IS NOW THAT HE HAS JOINED THE UTC. DURING HALF TERM THE WORDS 'I CAN'T WAIT TO GO BACK TO SCHOOL' WERE UTTERED ON MORE THAN ONE OCCASION. HE USED TO SWITCH HIS BRAIN OFF TO GO TO SCHOOL BECAUSE HE WAS SO BORED. HE IS TRANSFORMED!



Parent of a UTC Oxfordshire student



BMW have worked with UTC Oxfordshire students since its opening in 2015. Students are set a series of projects, depending on their year group, with the goal of developing employability skills and competencies. The projects are built around real company development strategies and allow students to work in teams to produce a solution to a problem.

The UTC Oxfordshire teams put together proposals to BMW Mini experts and these are reviewed, refined and supported by this team of experts to improve the design and outcomes. The brief and proposals are based around design aspects of the BMW range, from conception to production.

Once the final designs are ready for submission, a panel of judges from BMW choose finalists to present, boardroom-style to a panel. The panel judge the designs, professionalism, teamwork and creativity of the proposals and the winners are awarded prizes from BMW.

Presenting ideas and demonstrating how amazing our students are to BMW Mini is a unique opportunity and our students are proud to put this into their applications for apprenticeships, university and employment. One recent Year 13

student has secured a very prestigious apprenticeship with Mercedes F1 team based on his experience of his BMW mini project and work experience.

As we move into 2022 our relationship with BMW has grown stronger and selected students from each year group are mentored through their time at UTC Oxfordshire with the end goal being a prestigious apprenticeship with this group. BMW offer a wide range of employment opportunities including, not only engineering manufacturing but logistics, chemical compounds, business and finance. Through work with our employer partners, UTC Oxfordshire students stand out for having the much sought-after employer attributes alongside their high-level qualifications.

Scan the QR code below for further details.



THE KEY STAGE 4 PROGRAMME

Life in Years 10 and 11 at UTC Oxfordshire will be unlike any school experience you've ever had before.

Specialist options

Science and engineering is at the heart of UTC Oxfordshire, so our GCSEs and specialist studies link closely together. They both benefit from the practical expertise and real work projects that our industry and university partners bring.

At Key Stage 4, the specialist qualification in Engineering is a Cambridge National Qualification. This qualification is the initial step on the ladder of modular courses that are based on learning by doing and which lead on to both apprenticeships and higher education. They have recently been updated to match the latest government requirements on rigorous standards.

Students learn through a combination of units, some of which are internally assessed while others are externally examined. The qualification title and modules will depend on which specialism you choose. The Science specialism offers Astronomy and Psychology GCSE's.

"A rich range of opportunities prepares pupils very well for the next stages of their education or employment."
Ofsted, June 2018

Specialisms

Alongside the core curriculum, students at UTC Oxfordshire have the opportunity to specialise in Engineering, Life Sciences or Physical Sciences.

All specialisms are designed to enhance skills and knowledge, as well as to increase the opportunity for success in the core subjects, GCSEs, A Levels and BTEC qualifications.

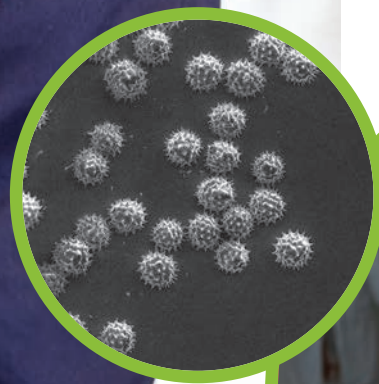
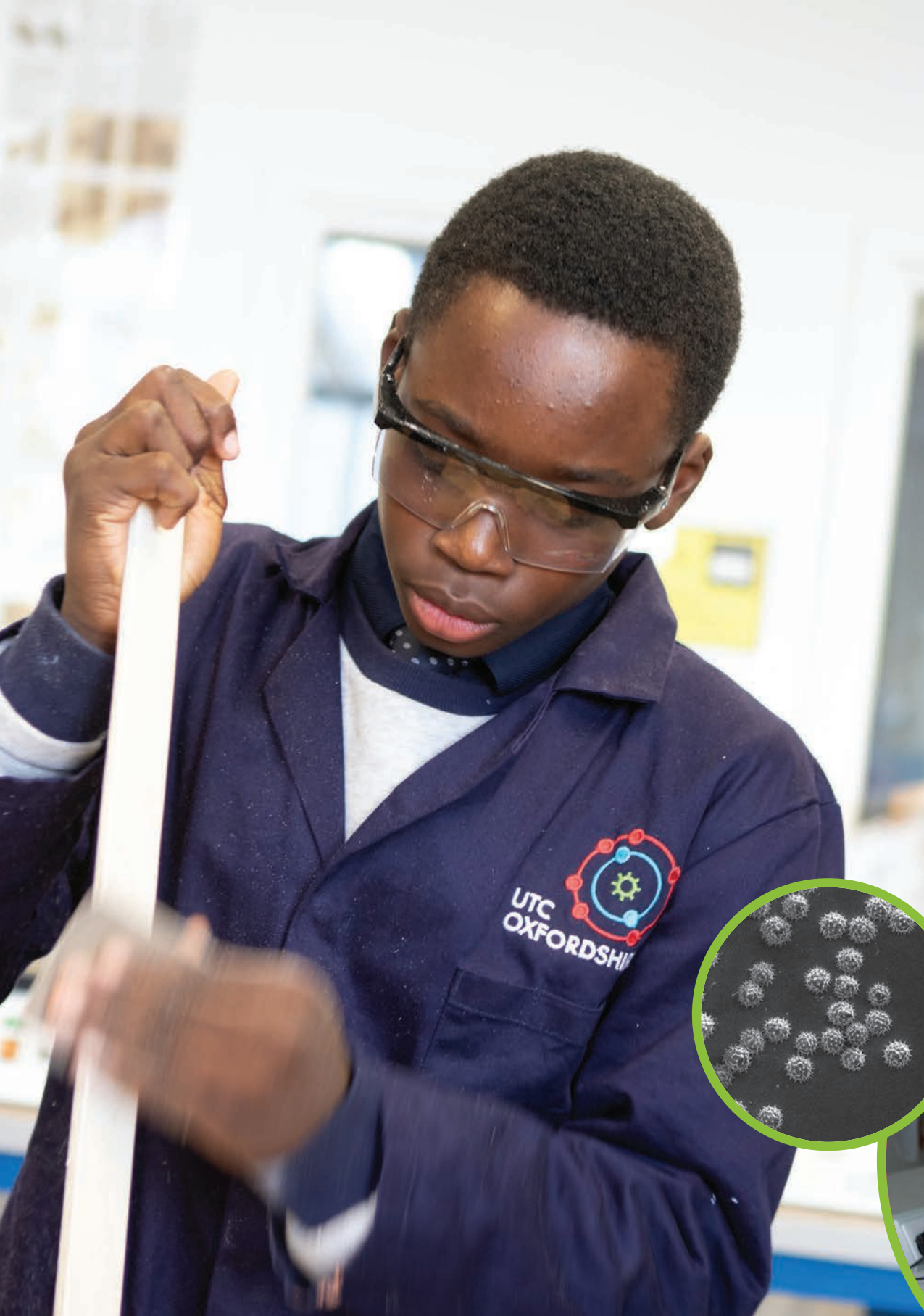
Specialisms are delivered through:

- » a blended combination of instructor-led seminars
- » project-based learning
- » employer expert input, either onsite, via video conferencing or through mentors visiting the UTC
- » independent learning assignments



Key Stage 4 Specialist Options





SIXTH FORM

In our Sixth Form, flexibility is at the heart of our approach. You can study A Levels, a vocational qualification, or a combination of these.

You decide on your study programme at UTC Oxfordshire, using a blend of:

- » Up to 4/5 A Levels on their own
- » An engineering or business BTEC
- » A Levels and a suitable size BTEC

Programme Level 3

Who for? Students with good GCSEs, at least five at grade 9-5, including English, mathematics and science.

Alumni student, Kerry, now studies mathematics at University of Cambridge

"I have always wanted to go to either Oxford or Cambridge University, and I have always had a passion for maths, especially since both of my parents are accountants and it has always surrounded me."

"I joined UTC Oxfordshire in Year 12 because it focused on subjects I am interested in, but also because it is a smaller school meaning there is more focus on individual students."

"Since joining the UTC, I have really grown in confidence. As part of our weekly Employer-Led Projects (ELP) we present back to others, which gets you out of your comfort zone, and only develops you further."

CASE STUDY



How long do they last? Usually two years, although some students may choose to complete their studies after Year 12 with the qualifications they have gained.

What can they lead to? University, employment or a higher apprenticeship.

Key Stage 5 Specialist Options

Route	Course	Entry requirements	Qualification equivalent	Destinations
ENGINEERING	TECHNICAL PATH L3 BTEC Extended Certificate Engineering + In house Engineering Technology practical certificate + AS Core Path	GCSE's Majority Grade 4 Including: Grade 5 GCSE Math Grade 4 GCSE English	1.5 A Levels	Students go on to an apprenticeship or employment
	VOCATIONAL PATH L3 BTEC National Diploma in Engineering + A Level Product Design + AS Core Math OR L3 BTEC Extended Diploma Engineering + AS Core Math	GCSE's Majority Grade 5 Including: Grade 5 GCSE Math Grade 4 GCSE English	3.5 A Levels	Students go on to study University courses or obtain a place on Degree Level Apprenticeships with one of our employer partners. D*D*D* plus A Level mathematics allows entry to Russell Group Universities. There is potential for development to a senior engineering role and Chartered Engineer Qualification
	ACADEMIC PATH L3 BTEC Extended Diploma in Engineering + A Level (or Core) Math with the option of A Level Further Math	GCSE's Majority Grade 5 Including: Grade 5 GCSE Math Grade 5 GCSE English Grade 6 or above for chosen A Level subject Grade 7 for Further Maths	3.5 to 5 A Levels depending on A Level choice	Students go on to study University courses or obtain a place on Degree Level Apprenticeships with one of our employer partners.
SCIENCE	VOCATIONAL PATH L3 BTEC Extended Diploma in Applied Science + AS Core Math	GCSE's Majority Grade 5 Including: Grade 5 GCSE Math Grade 4 GCSE English	3.5 A Levels	Students go onto scientific based degree Level Apprenticeships or employment with local employer partners or university
	ACADEMIC PATH x 3 or x 4 A Levels A Level Further Mathematics A Level Mathematics A Level Biology A Level Chemistry A Level Physics A Level Computer Science A Level Product Design AS Core Math (if not studying A Level)	GCSE's Majority Grade 6 Including: Grade 6 GCSE Math Grade 5 GCSE English Grade 6 or above for chosen A Level subject Grade 7 for Further Maths	3.5 to 5 A Levels depending on A Level choice	Students go onto attend a top UK university to study at degree or Masters Level or obtain a place on a Level 6 Degree Apprenticeship with one of our partner employers
BUSINESS	VOCATIONAL PATH L3 BTEC Extended Diploma in Applied Science + AS Core Math	GCSE's Majority Grade 5 Including: Grade 5 GCSE Math Grade 4 GCSE English	3.5 to 5 A Levels depending on A Level choice	Students go on to good universities at foundation or Degree Level or Degree Level Apprenticeships or employment with local employer partners

EPQ is the Extended Project Qualification and is highly recommended to all students to complete alongside the above qualifications regardless of the pathway chosen. Completion of the EPQ demonstrates additional, highly desirable skills for both employment and further education and is worth points for university entry. It can be studied over one or two years and tailored to a student's interest.

THE KEY STAGE 5 PROGRAMME



What's special about our specialisms?

Chosen and designed with the expertise and advice of our industry partners, our specialisms offer you everything you'd expect in a school science or technology curriculum, but with extra hands-on experience that you just won't get anywhere else:

- » Engineering Welding - using Mig, Tig and Arc welding equipment and not as virtual reality which allows the fabrication of metal structures to be made into a range of shapes and sizes
- » Engineering CNC machines - Industrial Specification used on extruded metal to produce a variety of engineered parts
- » SEM - the Scanning Electron Microscope (SEM) is a type of electron microscope that produces images of a sample by scanning the surface with a focused beam of electrons to give a magnification of about x 100,000
- » Fluorescence microscopy - used by microbiologists, cellular biologists and a host of hi-tech enterprises to support biotechnology applications
- » Mammalian tissue culture - the essential research skills for microbiologists working on cancer cure and gene therapy
- » Robotics and remote handling - design, programme and maintain the machines that we depend on for high-quality volume manufacturing, manipulating very large or microscopic objects, working in hazardous environments e.g. undersea, in space and nuclear reactors



First school in the world to offer:

- » Cryogenics lab - a bespoke laboratory to introduce students to the world of cryogenics highlighting the use and applications of liquid nitrogen. The lab will be available to both science and engineering specialisms to raise awareness of yet more career pathways available to them.

These enabling technologies support at least 17% of the UK economy!

LEARN IN A STATE-OF-THE-ART ENVIRONMENT

BASED IN
SCIENCE VALE UK,
UTC OXFORDSHIRE WILL
EQUIP STUDENTS
TO EXCEL IN THE NATIONAL
AND GLOBAL SCIENCE
AND ENGINEERING
SECTORS



OVER £10 MILLION
HAS BEEN INVESTED IN
DEVELOPING THIS STATE-OF-
THE-ART LEARNING CENTRE FOR
SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING.
ALL EQUIPMENT AND FACILITIES
AT UTC OXFORDSHIRE ARE HIGH
TECH AND SPECIFIED BY OUR
INDUSTRY PARTNERS





Life on campus

UTC Oxfordshire is at the leading edge of technology in learning. Personal devices can be used anywhere to access your work and study resources. Our science labs, engineering workshops and computer science spaces are high-tech and will enhance your learning. When you've built up an appetite, you can eat in the Elements café where you can have a snack or a full meal.

Our independent learning spaces provide a flexible, hot desk office working environment. You will pick up the habits and skills of planning your time and moving between individual desk work, meetings, briefings and practical tasks.

Technology

We believe that it is important that students not only have an in-depth understanding of technology but that they also understand how it is used in a day-to-day environment. You will be continually challenged in your IT skills and how to apply them in digital art, scientific work, music, humanities and sport.

Enrichment

Enrichment activities take place twice a week as we believe learning is enhanced by sports and leadership building initiatives. UTC Oxfordshire has an indoor hall for games and fully-equipped fitness suite. There is also a playing field with enough space for football and other outdoor games.

Student Support

Students at UTC Oxfordshire benefit from being taught by teachers who are fully qualified in their subject specialisms and often have had industrial or corporate experience before embarking on a career in teaching.

At UTC Oxfordshire we aim to:

- » Meet the individual needs of students
- » Overcome barriers to learning
- » Raise student self-esteem
- » Build student confidence
- » Develop student independence
- » Provide students with access to an education with a STEM focus

Students are supported by a pastoral team which starts with their tutor and their Head of Year. At UTC Oxfordshire, we support every student to progress and achieve their best. This includes students with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND). We follow a student-centred approach, and adapt the curriculum in a way that helps students with SEND learn. This includes needs such as: communication and interaction issues, cognitive and learning issues, emotional and social development or sensory and physical needs.

In lesson support is provided by subject specialist Teaching Assistants and we are fortunate enough to have a dedicated quiet space for students requiring additional support with their studies regardless of their year group.



INDUSTRY PARTNERS

UTC Oxfordshire is fortunate to be supported by our sponsors and partners who are working together to make sure we provide science and engineering excellence.

Partners are involved in a number of ways, including:

- » consultancy and advice on curriculum content
- » product and services donations
- » employer accreditations
- » employer-led projects and challenges
- » coaching and mentoring
- » providing work experience opportunities

Lead sponsor

Activate Learning

Activate Learning brings together secondary, further and higher education, workforce training, consultancy and social enterprise.

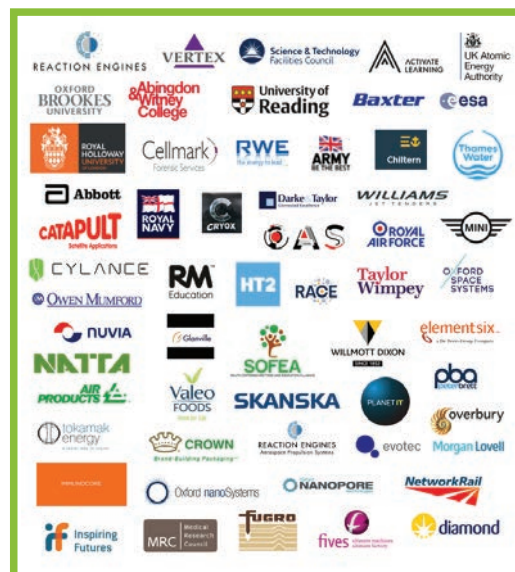
First and foremost, Activate Learning is an education business that puts its learners at the centre of everything it does. Its mission is to transform lives through learning.



I WOULD JUST LIKE TO SAY A VERY BIG THANK YOU FOR THE WAY YOU HAVE SUPPORTED MY SON AND HELPED HIM GROW OVER THE PAST FEW YEARS; I KNOW IT HASN'T BEEN EASY FOR THE STUDENTS OR STAFF AND WE COULD NEVER HAVE IMAGINED HOW ALL OUR LIVES COULD OF BEEN TURNED SO UPSIDE DOWN DUE TO COVID. HE WAS DELIGHTED WITH HIS BUSINESS AND MATHS GRADES AND HAPPY HE IS ABLE TO GO TO UNIVERSITY OF WEST ENGLAND (UWE). WITHOUT YOUR SUPPORT HE WOULDN'T HAVE DONE SO WELL ”

Parent of a UTC Oxfordshire student

Industry and academic partners



Find out more about our lead and associate industry and academic partners on our website: www.utcoxfordshire.org.uk



WE JUST WANTED TO SAY A HUGE THANK YOU TO ALL AT THE UTC FOR MANAGING SO IMPRESSIVELY WELL THROUGHOUT THE CHALLENGING TIMES OF THE PANDEMIC. YOU MUST ALL BE SHATTERED! WE HUGEY APPRECIATED HOW WONDERFULLY WELL THE UTC ADAPTED AND KEPT TEACHING AND LOOKING AFTER ALL THE PUPILS. ABSOLUTELY AMAZING! THANK YOU! ”

Parent of a UTC Oxfordshire student



OUR SON HAS REALLY THRIVED AT UTC OXFORDSHIRE AND IT WAS TOTALLY THE RIGHT PLACE FOR HIM. WE REALLY APPRECIATE THE SUPPORT AND ENCOURAGEMENT YOU HAVE GIVEN HIM AND THE OPPORTUNITIES YOU HAVE PASSED ONTO HIM ”

Parent of a UTC Oxfordshire student

JOIN AT 14

If you are currently in Year 9 and live within our 15 mile catchment area you can apply for a place. There are no tests to join the UTC at 14.

UTCs are designed to be sub-regional provisions so we welcome students from a wide catchment area that includes Oxfordshire, Newbury and Reading.

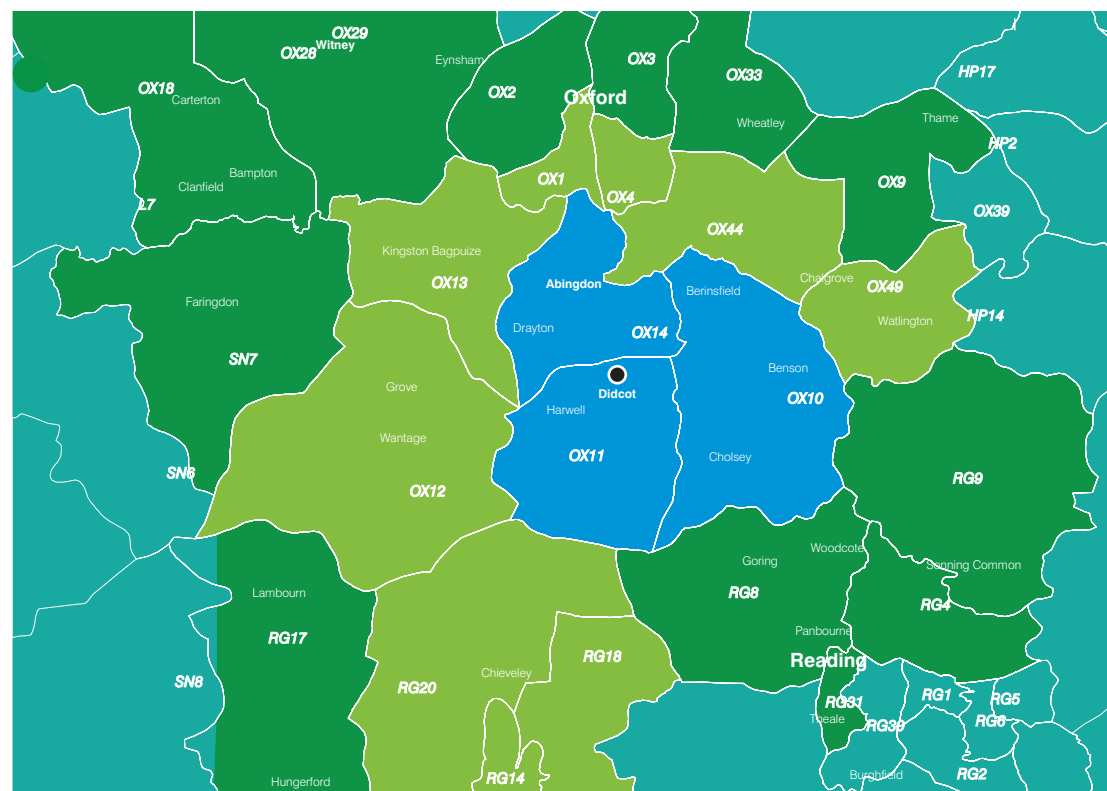
Grouped postcode areas have been defined as the method to ensure geographical spread. This means that applicants living close to UTC Oxfordshire do not have priority over other applicants within other parts

of the catchment. A set percentage of places will be allocated for young people living in each of the grouped postcode areas as shown on the map below.

10% of places may be available to students who live outside our catchment areas.

Eligible locations

- **Area one:** OX10, OX11 and OX14
- **Area two:** OX1, OX4, OX12, OX13, OX44, OX49, RG14, RG18 and RG20
- **Area three:** OX2, OX3, OX9, OX18, OX28, OX29, OX33, RG4, RG8, RG9, RG17, RG31 and SN7



Our admissions policy is available on our website.

Dress code

At UTC Oxfordshire we mirror the working world in every way possible and this includes what you wear. We require our students to be "boardroom ready" and as a result, all students and staff wear business attire. Our students tell us this change from their previous school helps them to embrace the demands of a working environment and allows them to display their growing maturity.

All members of the UTC Team: staff and students are expected to dress in business attire; wearing smart formal shoes (no trainers even if they are leather!) with either a shirt and tie with a suit or with formal trousers and tailored jacket; or formal trousers, a skirt or dress of reasonable length with a smart top/blouse and tailored jacket. Staff and students are always expected to wear their lanyards.

If you have chosen Product Design or Engineering then you will need to wear required safety equipment in the workshops. We operate at industry standard and so you will need to wear safety shoes, an overcoat and safety glasses when in the workshop. For Science a Lab coat and Safety spectacles are needed. Details of where you can buy these items are found on our website.

For Year 10 and 11 Health and Fitness lessons, our students are required to wear a UTC Oxfordshire polo shirt with plain shorts, plain leggings, plain tracksuit or jogging bottoms.

How to apply

Apply through the UTC Oxfordshire website
www.utcoxfordshire.org.uk/apply-now

Are you ready to move from school to UTC Oxfordshire?

We believe there are many good reasons to choose UTC Oxfordshire at 14. We also understand that the decision to change school at 14 is a big one.

In Year 9, as you lead up to your transition to UTC Oxfordshire, we will work with you, your family and your existing school to make sure that you are making the right decision. In making the move from your school to UTC Oxfordshire, it is important that:

- » you are not deciding on your own, but that you have the support of your parents or carers
- » you come to taster events that we put on to get a feel for the UTC and what it will be like studying here
- » you come and talk to us
- » you take advantage of the support, guidance and welfare on offer

Once you have made a decision to come, we will continue to work with your existing school so that you can take advantage of visits to the UTC towards the end of Year 9.

What matters to us is that you have made the right decision.



JOIN AT 16

If you are currently in Year 11, you can join the UTC after your GCSEs. There is no catchment area for the Sixth Form.

How to apply

You can apply for your place at UTC Oxfordshire on our website

www.utcoxfordshire.org.uk/apply-now

On receipt of your application form, we will invite you for a meeting to discuss your application. Your offer of a place is likely to be conditional on achieving certain GCSE grades.

To gain entry to Sixth Form, you must achieve five GCSEs at 5-9 including mathematics. If that is not the case then please contact our Head of Sixth form to discuss your options.

Alumni student, Charis, now studies medicine at Lincoln Medical School

"My favourite subjects have always been biology, chemistry and maths. I have always had a fascination with the human anatomy and really enjoy interacting with people. The two combined led to me considering a career in medicine. It was after going on work placements, for example at the John Radcliffe Hospital, and shadowing doctors and nurses, that it confirmed it for me."

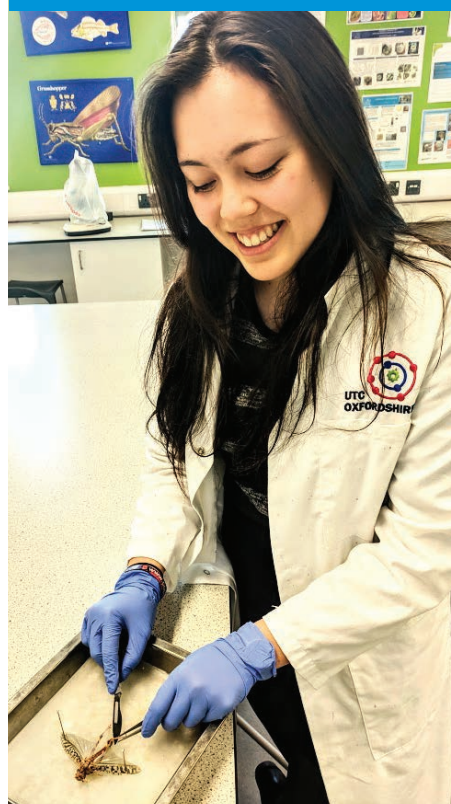
"When I decided I wanted to go into medicine, I got a weekend job at a pharmacy. I work there part-time and get exposure to patients, medicines and to the GPs, all of which is great experience."

"I am one of the pioneer students at UTC Oxfordshire, joining in its first year of opening, and I am soon to be leaving to set off on my dream career. Finding out that the UTC specialised in science and maths was a big draw for me."

"I knew the UTC would have more opportunities for me and I threw myself into the weekly Employer-Led-Projects (ELP) that they offered. Actually, in my university interview, I was able to talk all about the antibiotics resistant project we did, which benefited me greatly."

"It's more than just the academic development you gain at the UTC; it's also about developing key skills, such as teamwork, communication and leadership. That is what sets you up for your future."

CASE STUDY



FIND US

UTC Oxfordshire is based on Greenwood Way at Great Western Park, Harwell, on the western edge of Didcot.

Travel by public transport

If you're travelling by train, the nearest station is Didcot Parkway. There are frequent trains from Reading and Oxford, with calling points at Cholsey, Goring and Streatley and Pangbourne (between Didcot and Reading) and Appleford, Culham and Radley (between Didcot and Oxford).

UTC Oxfordshire is just over a mile walk from Didcot Parkway. Alternatively, there is a regular bus service which stops directly outside the UTC. The Connector runs every 15 minutes between Didcot Parkway and Harwell.

There are a number of bus services that operate across Didcot from the surrounding areas including Harwell, Chilton, Blewbury, Drayton, Abingdon, Drayton, Wantage and Wallingford.

As Great Western Park grows it is anticipated that transport links will improve and develop as the demand increases.

Green transport

We actively encourage students to use environmentally friendly modes of transport such as car sharing and the use of cycles. If you choose to cycle, there are plenty of cycle racks available.

Travel by car

UTC Oxfordshire is a short drive from the A34 heading north towards Oxford or south towards the M4, junction 13.

Approaching from the east (Nettlebed, Wallingford and Watlington), join the A4130 towards Didcot. When you reach Broadway, follow signs to the B4493.

From the west (Faringdon, Lambourn and Wantage), join the A417 towards Harwell/Didcot before joining the B4493.



FIND OUT MORE

Open events

Together with our industry partners we run a number of taster events and information sessions throughout the year. Please come along to find out more and ask any questions you have.

You can find out when our next event is on our website: www.utcoxfordshire.org.uk/events

Get in touch

Email: admissions@utcoxfordshire.org.uk

Keep up to date

www.utcoxfordshire.org.uk



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SCAN ME

