

# UTC OXFORDSHIRE | 2024-25

## PROSPECTUS



# WELCOME TO UTC OXFORDSHIRE

AS YOU APPROACH YEAR 10 OR YEAR 12, YOU'LL BE FACING SOME IMPORTANT CHOICES THAT CAN SET YOU ON THE PATH TO A GREAT CAREER. WE'RE THRILLED YOU'RE CONSIDERING JOINING US TO START THAT JOURNEY.

UTC Oxfordshire is a University Technical College, which is different to a regular school. We are a government funded secondary school with a STEM focus designed to provide pathways for young people into academic study and technical careers. We welcome students in Years 10-13 with a passion for Science and Engineering. These are important sectors for the economy in Oxfordshire. The area has high employment rates and is the base for many national and global companies, some of whom work with us as employer partners.

At UTC Oxfordshire you will follow high-quality STEM technical and academic courses, supported by employer partners who offer specialist learning through workshops and challenge days, set real-world projects and provide valuable work experience placements.

**Sam Knowlton**  
Executive Principal



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. These skills will make you stand out from the crowd when applying for jobs, further education or apprenticeships.

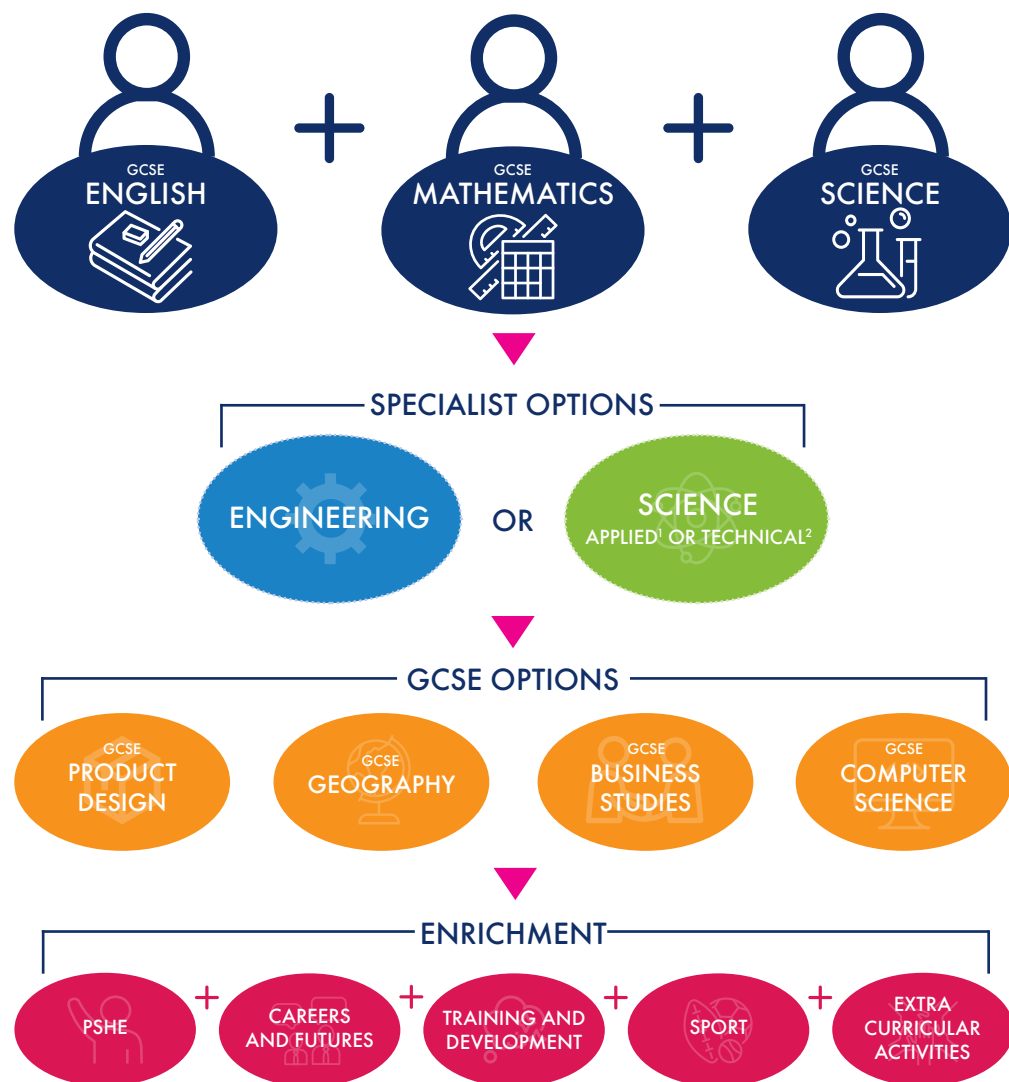
If you enjoy learning, want to benefit from the latest technology and be in an environment that feels more like being at work than school, then UTC Oxfordshire could be for you and we would warmly welcome you to join us in September.

# WHAT MAKES US SPECIAL?



# OUR CURRICULUM

YEAR 10 AND YEAR 11



<sup>1</sup> The Applied Science specialism offers GCSEs in Psychology and Astronomy

<sup>2</sup> The Technical Science specialism offers Sports Science

## STUDENTS IN YEAR 10 AND 11 STUDY CORE SUBJECTS ALONGSIDE ADDITIONAL GCSE SUBJECTS AND EQUIVALENT QUALIFICATIONS.

Our curriculum has been developed with employers and university partners to ensure students leave with the qualifications and work-ready attributes they need to be able to enjoy fulfilling careers. As well as classroom and individual learning, students take part in real-world projects and work placements.

All our students follow a STEM-based curriculum incorporating our specialisms in Science and Engineering.

The specialist qualification in Engineering is a **Cambridge National Qualification**, a GCSE equivalent modular course.

The Science specialism offers single sciences in **Biology, Chemistry and Physics alongside Psychology, Astronomy or Sports Science.**

Lessons are delivered predominately through tutor-led seminars, along with project-based learning and employer expert input.

SCAN HERE FOR FURTHER INFORMATION



DID YOU KNOW

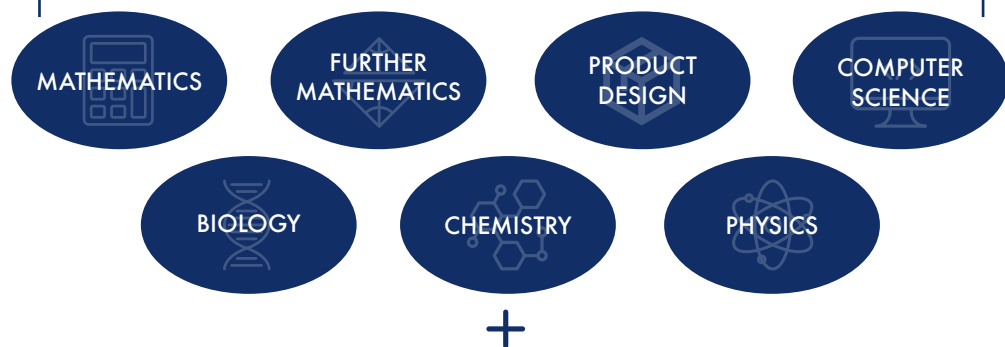
We offer unusual subjects like Sports Science, Psychology and Astronomy



# OUR CURRICULUM

YEAR 12 AND YEAR 13

## A LEVEL OPTIONS



EXTENDED PROJECT QUALIFICATION (EPQ)

AND/OR

## BTEC SUBJECT SPECIALISMS



## ENRICHMENT



"In Sixth Form I found the small class sizes really helped in creating a personal connection with the teachers, meaning they understand how you learn, what you need support with and how you can best advance."

Koppany,  
Y13 student

IN OUR SIXTH FORM, YOU CAN STUDY A LEVELS, A VOCATIONAL QUALIFICATION OR A COMBINATION OF BOTH.

To study at our Sixth Form you need good GCSEs, with at least five at grade 9-5, including English, Maths and Science, with at least a 6 in the subject chosen for A Level.

Study programmes last two years, and can lead to university, employment or a higher apprenticeship.

All of the subjects offered by UTC Oxfordshire are highly regarded, both by high-tech employers and universities.

SCAN HERE FOR FURTHER INFORMATION



YOU CAN WORK WITH OUR IMPRESSIVE EQUIPMENT:  
SCANNING ELECTRON AND FLORESCENCE MICROSCOPES;  
INDUSTRY STANDARD WELDING, ENGINEERING AND ROBOTICS EQUIPMENT

# EMPLOYER-LED LEARNING

UTC Oxfordshire is fortunate to be supported by our sponsors and partners, working together to make sure we provide Science and Engineering excellence.

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

Employer partners are involved in a number of ways, including:

- » leading projects and challenges
- » coaching and mentoring
- » providing work experience opportunities
- » consultancy and advice on curriculum content
- » product and services donations
- » employer accreditations such as Microsoft Office Specialist.

## Digital Futures Programme

Our world is digital and changing fast. Our young people need to be ready to enter a digital workforce with up-to-the-minute skills and attributes.

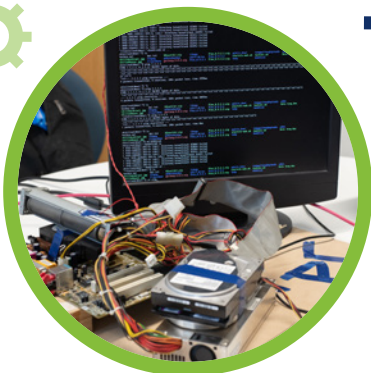
With this in mind, we have created the Digital Futures Programme in collaboration with our employer partners, who are experts in the industry. Aiming to give our students a clear pathway into world-class careers within the digital sector, the programme aims to equip learners with sought-after transferable skills as part of their Engineering qualifications.

The Digital Futures Programme has been warmly welcomed in the digital world, winning three global awards in just 12 months.

## What will I study?

You will work with employers who will bring their extensive industry experience to teach useful skills in electrical and mechanical engineering, IT, networking, project management skills and problem resolution.

Working through a series of employer-led lessons, challenge days and work placements, you will finish the course with the competitive edge over other students, ready to enter the world of work.



# DESTINATIONS

OUR LEAVERS GO ON TO A RANGE OF EXCITING DESTINATIONS, FROM APPRENTICESHIPS TO UNIVERSITY AND EMPLOYMENT

WE ARE THE  
ONLY UTC

WHERE Y13 LEAVERS HAVE ATTENDED OXFORD OR CAMBRIDGE IN EACH OF THE LAST 4 YEARS

31%

OF OUR Y13 LEAVERS SECURED HIGHER OR DEGREE LEVEL APPRENTICESHIPS

*compared to a national average of 24%*

Our A Level results were in the

top 5%

OF THE COUNTRY FOR STEM SUBJECTS TAKEN AT NON-SELECTIVE SCHOOLS

LAST YEAR OUR YEAR 13 LEAVERS SECURED DEGREE APPRENTICESHIPS WITH THESE EMPLOYERS:



Science & Technology  
Facilities Council



Stantec



UK Atomic  
Energy  
Authority

# STUDENT SUPPORT AND PASTORAL CARE



We are a small school where teachers can get to know the students, and their learning styles, well. Our teachers are highly qualified in their subject specialisms and often have had industrial or corporate experience before embarking on a career in teaching.

We offer a strong pastoral care system, allowing each student to be known and developed by every member of staff.

Students are supported by a pastoral team which starts with their tutor and their Head of Year.

## Technology

Students learn using leading edge, industry standard technology in our science labs, engineering workshops and computer science spaces. 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, so they are continually challenged in IT skills.

## Enrichment

Enrichment activities take place twice a week, as we believe learning is enhanced by sports and leadership building initiatives.

We have 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 Leadership Board

The Student Leadership Board (SLB) is at the centre of the school and is actively involved in the decision-making process at UTC Oxfordshire. The SLB functions like a department within the school with one key objective - to help students enjoy their UTC experience.

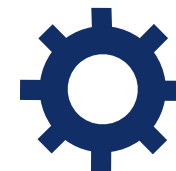
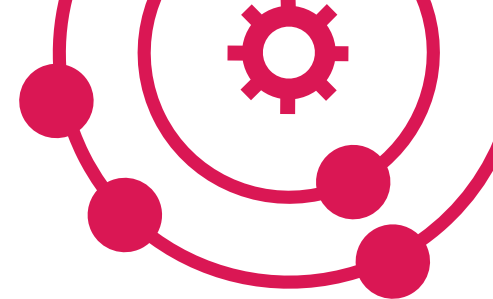
Undertaking projects such as new enrichment schemes, joint lesson observations with teachers or being involved in staff recruitment, the SLB at UTC Oxfordshire is one of a kind. Students can join the SLB in any year group and can be actively involved in helping to make the school better.

# EXTRA SUPPORT

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.

Our SEND Co-ordinator would be delighted to discuss your specific needs, please get in touch via our website.





# OUR TRUST

Activate Learning Education Trust is run with the support of industry and academic partners. We transform lives through learning by providing exciting and innovative education for young people.

## OUR VISION, MISSION AND VALUES

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.



**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."**

**Joanne Harper,**  
CEO Activate Learning Education Trust



# OUR LEARNING PHILOSOPHY

**Our Learning Philosophy shapes our approach to teaching and learning. It recognises three essential elements to effective learning, and helps us ensure our educational experience really supports and challenges students.**

## BRAIN

Our brain connects neurons to make networks. These networks strengthen and work faster through repeated use. We believe in hard work and recognise the value in working through our failures so that we are constantly learning and improving.

**It guides how lessons are planned and delivered, how real-world examples are blended with theory, and the independent but supportive environment in which they can thrive. The sweet spot for learning is where these all come together.**

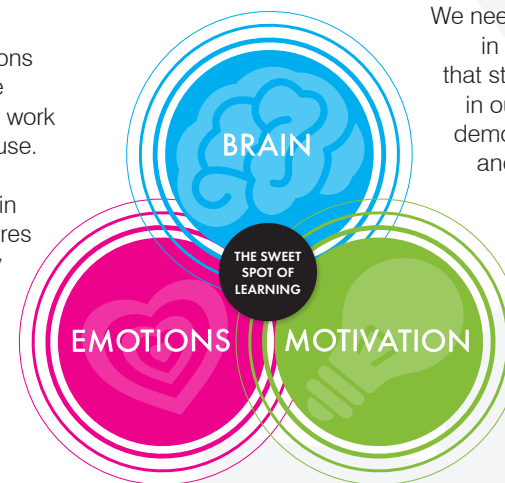
## MOTIVATION

We need to motivate ourselves in order to do the practice that strengthens the networks in our brains. By repeatedly demonstrating the relevance and impact of newly learnt skills and knowledge, we maintain our students' motivation.

## EMOTIONS

## EMOTIONS

Our emotional response to studying has a massive influence on how we learn. The more positive our learners' emotional response to studying is, the more likely they are to engage with and remember what they're learning.



# HOW TO APPLY



If you are currently in Year 9, have a passion for Science or Engineering, and live within our 15 mile catchment area, you can apply for a place. Please see our website for a detailed catchment map.

If you are currently in Year 11, you can join us after your GCSEs, to deepen your knowledge of Science and Engineering.

There is no catchment area for the Sixth Form, but you need to meet the entry requirements for the courses you wish to study.

You can apply for your place at UTC Oxfordshire on our website [www.utcoxfordshire.org.uk](http://www.utcoxfordshire.org.uk)

## CONNECT WITH US:



@UTC Oxfordshire



/UTC Oxfordshire




@utcoxfordshire

Or you can scan here to apply!







**SCAN  
HERE TO  
APPLY**



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