

ARe/JWa

16 February 2018

Dear Parents/Carer

Letter from the Principal

As we approach the end of term, I wanted to thank you for your continued support of the UTC and its ethos.

When we return, week commencing 26 February 2018, we will be preparing for exams as we move towards the summer. Year 11 and Year 13 will be the focus of intervention to ensure we maximise on their success.

Please could I remind you that mobile phones/electronic devices/headphones **are not allowed out** during lessons or project time. They should be switched off and in bags apart from break and lunchtimes. If a student is found to have them out during lesson/project time, then they will be confiscated, only to be returned at the end of the day; which will invoke an SLT detention.

To maintain our excellent standards can I ask you to remind students they should not wear coats inside the UTC building. Following a term of constant gentle reminders, our staff will, from March, take coats and hoodies from students if worn inside the building and insist they collect them at the end of the day. This will hopefully ensure all students reflect the 'professional ethos' of the UTC. We are also increasingly having to speak with students about wearing inappropriate footwear such as trainers. Shoes should be black leather for protection. Please could I also take this opportunity to remind you that full business dress, including appropriate school trousers/skirts and black shoes is expected for ALL students. Students will be challenged regarding the above on return from the half term.

Due to the focus on finalising coursework for Year 11 and Year 13, please could I encourage students to bring their own device, if appropriate. This will ensure that they have access to IT facilities at this busy time.

The Year 11 are currently in the process of organising their prom, which I am certain will be a key event following all their hard work towards exams.

Wherever possible, please could you keep us up to date regarding your contact details. We constantly have to send information through electronically, so an up to date email address is helpful. Please contact admin@utcsheffield.org.uk to update your information.

Dockless Yellow Bikes

I am certain many of you will have seen the recent press coverage in regards to the launch of this new cycle scheme across the City - <http://www.sheffieldnewsroom.co.uk/dockless-bikes-are-go-in-sheffield/> This is a fantastic facility for those wishing to have a reasonably priced mode of transport available to them. Unfortunately, it has been brought to our attention that some UTC students are using them inappropriately, ignoring Highway Code rules, which endangers not only the student, but also members of the public when they are being ridden on pavements. Please could you speak with your child and inform them, that if they do use these cycles, they must adhere to the Highway Code and ride in an appropriate manner.

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Key Dates

- A UTC staff training day (closed to students) will take place on **Friday 16 February 2018** (prior to February half term holiday), returning **Monday 26 February 2018**
- Business Wear – Pop up Shop - **Wednesday 18th April 2018** from 4pm – 7pm (parents evening - The Business Wear providers are going to do a pop-up shop for existing parents with the current business wear being reduced to £10 for jackets and £10 for trousers. Please note there is a limited supply.)
- Easter Holidays are – **Friday 30 March – Friday 13 April**, returning **Monday 16 April 2018**
- Formal exams begin early May, which is only 10 weeks away. Please ensure your child is in school and learning during this time, to support positive outcomes in their results. In addition, please encourage students to be prepared during exams/mock exams by being in school promptly and having all the necessary equipment and stationery

Finally, I would like to congratulate those students who have gained unconditional offers from universities, particularly those in CDM, which is down to the quality of work they have presented. Well done to all. I hope yourselves and the students have a restful holiday and look forward to a term of hard work and commitment on return to UTC on Monday 26 February 2018.

Kind regards



Alex Reynolds
Principal