

1 April 2021

Dear Students, Parents and Carers

I wanted to write to you to thank you for your support this year. The way all of UTC OLPs students have risen to the challenge of home learning and managing the stresses involved in so many unknowns has been a humbling thing to witness. Whilst I know the challenges are not yet over I am optimistic that we are starting to return slowly to normality.

As lockdown restrictions ease we hope to restart our enrichment programmes. Further details of these will follow after the Easter break.

During the last half term of the summer, (as long as covid restrictions allow) we are planning transition for all our students into next year's timetable. This will be after the full Y11 cohort leave. This means that **Y9 will finish at 3.25pm rather than the current 2.35pm**. This additional time will allow us to ensure student progress is accelerated. If this causes any issues please do not hesitate to let us know.

For our current Y11 students we are mindful that assessments for GCSEs have been based on content covered. There is additional content that has not been delivered due to lockdown that will benefit students starting Post 16 courses with us. We would therefore like to offer all prospective Y12 students from the current Year 11 cohort the opportunity to start their Y12 timetable at the end of the summer term, week commencing Monday 28 of June onwards. Students will use this time to work with staff on intensive skills sessions to ensure they have the knowledge and skills base they need to excel in Post 16.

Upcoming dates

Monday 19 April	Return to school after the Easter break.
Tuesday 20 April	Y11 and Y13 information evening 5pm – 6pm
Friday 28 May	Last day before half term break. Y11 last day of work towards GCSE's. Y11's are not required to attend after this date unless specifically requested by subject teacher for intervention during the week beginning Monday 7 June.
Monday 7 June	Inset day (rescheduled from February).
14 - 25 June	Assessments for Y9, Y10, Y12.
28 June onwards	Y11 invited back as Y12 for transition until the end of term. All year groups transition into next year's timetable.
5 – 9 July	New Y9 transition week.

Uniform

Just a reminder that the UTC uniform policy will still be enforced after Easter. Uniform is available in full on the website. Students will need to be in school shoes and not trainers. Hair should be a natural colour. Students should wear the UTC business wear and not jeans or leggings. All students should be fully equipped for lessons including having a UTC Lanyard. Any student out of uniform will be issued a sanction on return.

Smart Watches

Due to students using smart watches during assessments going forward they will be asked to take their watches off and place in their bag before any assessments / exams.

Covid home testing

Students have been given their second set of home testing kits today. If for any reason they have not received them please contact the UTC and they can be collected during the Easter break. DfE guidance is for students to continue testing over the Easter holidays, please continue to record using the below link:

<https://forms.office.com/r/t4cdY3Equk>

Year 11/13

Attached alongside this letter is an information pack outlining year 11 assessments. This has been explained to students in tutor. Further details and explanations will form part of the Y11 and Y13 information evening on the 20 April.

The government has confirmed that in summer 2021, students taking GCSE, AS and A levels regulated by Ofqual, should be awarded grades based on an assessment by their teachers.

Teachers at UTC OLP can use a range of evidence to make a judgement of the grade students are performing at. Students will only be assessed on what they have been taught, ensuring sufficient coverage of the curriculum to enable progression. When determining the grade, teachers will reflect the standard at which the student is performing now, not their potential.

Teachers will use the time remaining to balance continued teaching with any assessments they want to undertake. So that all are aware of the content being taught each week, when assessments are taking place and where you can find resources to support them, we have produced an 'Assessment Plan' for each subject area.

This document is included with this letter but can also be found in the 'Home Learning' tab on our website; the link is below:

<https://www.utcsheffield.org.uk/olp/home-learning/assessment-plans-2020-21/>

We would like to say we appreciate the support parents give students to prepare fully for assessments. Thank you in advance for all you will do during the Easter holidays and in the lead up to mock examinations on the weeks commencing 17 and 25 May.

If you have any further questions or require any additional support, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Year 11 Leavers Hoodies are now able to purchase direct from the supplier:

<http://www.westitchanylogo.co.uk/utc-sheffield-olympic-park>

The hoodies will have the '21 LEAVERS' on the back and the UTC Olympic Legacy Park logo on the front.

Students can either have personalisation printed on the back under the 21 LEAVERS, or stitched on the front underneath the UTC logo.

The hoodies are £16 each, however as they are personalised there will be no refunds, so please ensure personalisation is correct at point of order.

Please select 'Free Delivery – bulk delivery to school' at the checkout. These will be delivered to school once all orders have been taken.

As all orders are direct through the supplier, if you have any changes to your order please contact the supplier directly.

The deadline for ordering is Sunday 16th May 2021.

Message for Y11 ICT and Computer Science students.

Y11 IT students need to complete coursework at home over the Easter break. If they have any questions they need to email the relevant teacher, the more they can do at home the more time they will have after Easter to concentrate on other subjects.

Y11 Computer Science need to revise for the assessments which they can use Teams and also teach-ict website.

Yours faithfully



Mrs. Jessica Stevenson
Principal
UTC OLP