



# Berkeley Green UTC



## WEEKLY NEWSLETTER 23-SEP-22

### Headteacher's Update

This week we have welcomed a number of visitors to the UTC, one of which was Simon Connell – the CEO of the Baker Dearing Trust (BDT). The BDT are the group who lead all of the UTCs around the country and help shape the STEM and technical education that is provided. As part of his role he visits all of the UTCs across the country from as far north as Durham to as far south as Plymouth. During his visit he visited lessons, spoke to students and observed our lunchtime routines. He was full of praise for the students at the UTC and commented on the high levels of behaviour and maturity our students demonstrated.

We are excited to be taking our post 16 students out to an apprenticeship event at Ashton Gate in Bristol this week. This will give our students a great opportunity to see what type of apprenticeships are available to them at the end of their time at the UTC and to make positive relationships with a new range of employers.

Gareth Lister

## Local School Board

Our local school board play an important role in the development of the UTC. We will soon be advertising for a parent/carer to join the board, however we currently have a vacancy for Governance Officer. If you are interested then please click [this](#) link to find out more.

## Attendance

Last week we had over 250 students achieve 100% attendance and they were each entered in to the Choco Lotto. This week's winners were Haydn Budd from Year 10, George Smart, Christopher Carpenter-Richards, Peter Holton all in Year 11, Libby Edsall, Aleks Walewski both year 12 and George Shepard year 13. We currently have 217 students with 100% attendance and hopefully this number will remain high.

Whilst the Choco Lotto does bring some fun and excitement to the Positive 10 assembly there is a serious message behind it and that is that attendance matters.

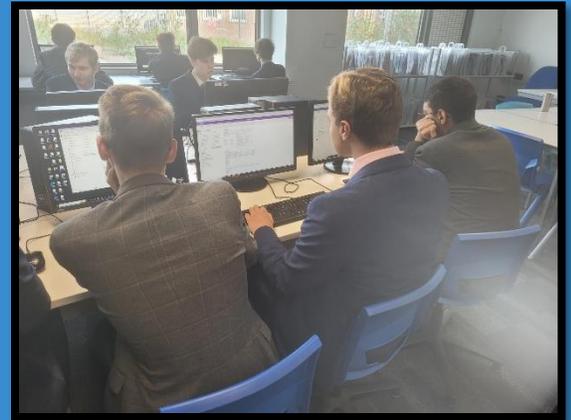
It is hoped this will be the first academic year since 2018-19 without coronavirus having a significant impact on our daily attendance and as such, it is time to return to our regular expectations. At the risk of stating the obvious, if students are not in lessons they are likely to be disadvantaged! We need to work together in order to significantly reduce the amount of learning lost through absence. If youngsters are struggling and feeling under the weather, please give them some appropriate medication and send them into the UTC, rather than allowing them to stay at home. Similarly, we will be encouraging them to remain in lessons as much as possible during the day.

Please note that *persistent absence* is defined as individual attendance falling below 90% and students falling below this level will be referred to the educational welfare officer. The obvious reason for this is the direct correlation between attendance and achievement. Data shows that those whose attendance was above 96% can be over twice as likely to achieve grades 9 - 5 compared to those whose attendance was below 90%

Attending school every day really does make a difference. In the event that your child is unavoidably absent from school, they are still expected to complete the work they are missing during private study sessions.

Your help and support with attendance is greatly appreciated

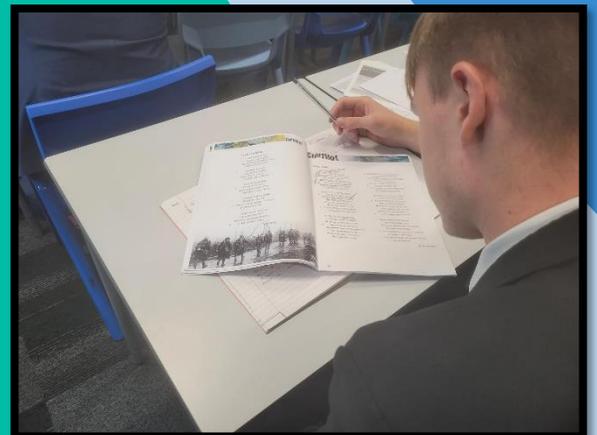
Graham Withers – Assistant Headteacher



*Year 12 computer scientists investigating inputs and outputs for a range of computational devices*



*Key stage 4 students at lunchtime sports cub*



*Year 11 English students have been analysing poetry*

## Key Stage 4 Curriculum Update

*The Year 10 Design and Technology students have enjoyed an introduction to practical aspects of the course. They have each constructed a plywood hexagonal box that has encouraged them all to measure and mark out very accurately.*

*Paul Bassett – Teacher of Design Technology*

## Eco-schools

As the nation said goodbye to the Queen this week, speculation turns toward how our new monarch will differ in his leadership style. His Majesty King Charles III has long been an advocate for the environment, speaking publicly about biodiversity loss and chemical pollution for the first time in 1970, far before they became accepted as serious concerns in the mainstream. Speaking at the World Economic Forum in 2020, the King delivered a speech emphasising how extra wealth gained from “business as usual” should not be prioritised over the protection of the ecosystems that we depend on for survival.

It will be interesting to see how His Majesty utilises his influence as he works alongside world leaders and policymakers.

Sophie Whipp – Eco-schools Lead

## Rights Respecting School

This week we have been focusing on Article 15- *children have the right to join groups*. One of many groups at the UTC is the Rights Respecting School Student Council and this week students have been given information on how to be elected into the student council and what being in the council involves. Joining the council gives students the chance to express their views and make positive changes whilst working on becoming a silver status Rights Respecting School.

Elections for tutor representatives in KS4 and KS5 will take place next week and elections for the 6th form leadership roles will take place to following week. Results will be announced on Friday 7th October.

If you are interested in a KS5 leadership role please express and interest to Jo Brown ([jo.brown@berkeleygreenutc.org.uk](mailto:jo.brown@berkeleygreenutc.org.uk)) by Monday 26th- further details on this will be given once you have expressed an interest.

Jo Brown – RRSA Lead

## Upcoming Dates

**28<sup>th</sup> September** – Apprenticeship trip for years 12 and 13

**30<sup>th</sup> September** – UTC closed for staff INSET

**6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> October** – Year 13 physics trip to CERN

**19<sup>th</sup> October** – MS Teams meeting with the leadership team

**21<sup>st</sup> October** – Rolls Royce employer project

**21<sup>st</sup> October** – Last day of term

## Key Stage 5 Curriculum Update

*This week in A level Chemistry, year 13 are studying thermodynamics, particularly focusing on whether reactions are feasible or not. The students are considering not just the enthalpy of a reaction but also the change in entropy, in other words, does the reaction becomes more or less disordered?*

*Ruth Eades – Teacher of Chemistry*

## Student Celebrations

Every week we celebrate our students displaying our core values. To recognise their actions we award display of values (DoV) points. Below are our DoV Heroes for this week.

### Year 10

- Finley Gardiner (10 DoV points)
- Thomas Smith (9)

### Year 11

- Andraw Bartholomew (8)
- Bude Hill (8)
- Zac Marland (8)

### Year 12

- Dante Milligan (11)
- Libby Edsall (10)
- Aaron Roberts (10)

### Year 13

- Josh Barton (7)
- Rahim Ali (4)
- Will Dowler (4)

## Notices

### Curriculum Updates

We have recently created a new section on our website designed to share with parents what students are learning about in each of their subjects. This will be updated every term.

The page is designed to give parents and carers the opportunity to discuss the learning that is happening at the UTC with their young people.

The page can be located within the *curriculum* section of our website.

### Cyber Security Event

On Friday 6 January 2023 there is a new event at UWE aimed at students aged 16-18. It is not a careers fayre but an opportunity to meet employers during interactive sessions where each will be describing and providing taster activities around different cyber disciplines.

The aim is to give students a flavour of the different roles within cyber plus they will have the chance to discuss opportunities with the different employers, some of which are offering apprenticeships and work experience. It will be a half-day event finishing by 1.30pm. For more information about signing up please speak to Siobhan Williams as soon as possible at [siobhan.williams@berkeleygreenutc.org.uk](mailto:siobhan.williams@berkeleygreenutc.org.uk).

## Apprenticeships

There are currently a number of apprenticeship applications open that we are sharing with our year 13 students. These are listed below.

### Mercedes AMG – Brixworth - £18,500

[CNC Machinist](#)  
[Build Technician](#)  
[Test Technician](#)

### AWE – Reading - £18,500 (from year 2)

[Civil and Structural Engineering](#)  
[Nuclear Engineering Apprenticeship -](#)  
[Mechanical](#)  
[Nuclear Engineering Apprenticeship -](#)  
[Electrical](#)  
[Electronic Design Apprenticeship](#)  
[Manufacturing Engineering Apprenticeship](#)

### Babcock – Bristol - £21,733

[Mechanical Engineering with Manufacturing](#)  
[Degree Apprenticeship](#)  
[Digital and Technology Solutions Degree](#)  
[Apprenticeship](#)