



**University
Technical
Colleges®**

Introduction to UTCs and Plans for Worcestershire



Find out more online:
www.worcestershire.gov.uk/UTCworcestershire

 **worcestershire**
county council

UTC Worcestershire's Vision

We aim to create a school of choice for 14 to 19 year olds wanting to progress their education in STEM (science, technology, engineering, and maths) subjects in the Worcestershire area. UTC Worcestershire will provide a relevant and exciting learning experience for all students ensuring that STEM subjects underpin everything we do. UTC students will work with a range of employee partners and or University Sponsor to bring the curriculum to life through applied learning.

This will provide them with the necessary skills, experience, and qualifications to progress into the world of work and higher education. In turn, UTC Worcestershire aims to develop the next generation of skilled technicians, engineers, and designers to provide a workforce for the future and ensure Worcestershire's economic sustainability in the Advanced Manufacturing, Cyber Security and Defence, and Agri-Tech sectors.

What Is A UTC?

University technical colleges (UTCs) are government-funded schools that offer 14–19 year olds a great deal more than traditional schools. They teach students technical and scientific subjects in a whole new way and are educating the inventors, engineers, scientists and technicians of tomorrow.

Worcestershire needs advanced technical skills at all levels if we are to prosper in the 21st century. Whether in manufacturing, wind farms, rail links or hi-tech hospitals we need a workforce that can develop new products, stretch and reuse existing resources, and meet all the challenges of the future. UTCs are creating skilled workers to meet this need and by 2016 more than 30,000 students will be able to follow this new technical education pathway.

UTCs are smaller than traditional secondary schools. They are not academically selective and charge no fees. UTCs typically have 600 students, are sub regional and have a catchment area that may extend across a number of local authorities.





UTC Worcestershire Employee Engagement Vision

Worcestershire LEP's (Local Enterprise Partnership) strategic objectives include Employment and Skills and Sector Development. Within Employment and Skills the LEP seek to strengthen the relationship between business and education. University Technical College's have a strong relationship with local business at the heart of everything they do from the management and governance of the school through to everyday delivery of the curriculum. Secondly the LEP seek to develop strong growth identified sectors within Worcestershire of which Advanced Manufacturing, Cyber Security and Defence, and Agri-Tech fit with the UTC initiative.

UTC Worcestershire will work with local businesses and partners to effectively develop the next generation of engineers and technicians who are equipped with the skills and knowledge to progress in the identified industries or through higher education. By working closely with our partners we will ensure UTC students are prepared and have the right skills and experience to progress ensuring their learning experience has a natural fit with their chosen progression route.

In turn, local businesses and higher education providers will benefit from enriched and well-rounded young people joining their organisations with the right skills and experience to fulfil their potential.

Why Worcestershire?

Worcestershire LEP, Bosch Thermotechnology, Mazak, Malvern Instruments, QinetiQ, Morgan Cars, and Worcestershire County Council have come together to identify a need in the area to provide a specialist education provision in Advance Manufacturing, Agri-tech and Cyber and Defence. These specialisms feature strongly in the local economy as well as being emerging and developing industries. We recognise that the next generation of technical skilled young people are needed to ensure these businesses continue and grow.

The Worcestershire economy has substantial potential to grow rapidly and contribute increasingly to national economic growth by realising the significant opportunities in the area and removing barriers that are preventing businesses from investing. Worcestershire is committed to delivering an additional 25,000 jobs and increase GVA by £2.9 billion by 2025 by implementing the SEP.

Worcestershire is an existing centre of growth. The county has had one of the highest long-term (1997-2011) growth rates in Gross Value Added (GVA) outside the Greater South East.

Worcestershire is a leading location in terms of advanced manufacturing, agri-tech and cyber security/defence/IT. Worcestershire is ranked as one of the best performing Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP) areas in terms of advanced manufacturing employment. It is also a leading location in terms of the growing cyber security sector and has a strong base of horticulture and food sector businesses. Key world-class employers in these sectors include globally recognised brands and companies such as Worcester Bosch, QinetiQ, Brintons, Halfords, Npower, Kanes Foods, Yamazaki Mazak, Malvern Instruments, Morgan Motors and GKN.

A Day In The Life of a UTC Student

Studying at a UTC provides students with the opportunity to gain both an academic and technical education in an exciting and inspiring learning environment. UTC students work closely with employers to enable them to be qualified to work in sectors that are growing and looking for skilled staff.

Employers take an active role, regularly mentoring students and providing opportunities for work experience in a wide range of areas. Students have opportunities to work with businesses on real-life projects, with access to world-class facilities and equipment used by industry. Days typically start at 8.30am and end at 5pm including time for homework, leaving evenings clear for other activities.

Working with Employers

More than 500 employers are working with individual UTCs or groups of UTCs. Each UTC is usually backed by a number of private sector businesses of all sizes, and sometimes public sector organisations such as hospitals. Employers partner with a UTC on a number of different levels. Prior to the UTC opening, employers will provide support, advice, guidance, resources and facilities to enable the UTC to develop and open.

Post-opening, employers provide UTCs with opportunities for their students to gain real-life work experience, co-ordinate a number of projects linking in to curriculum, have involvement in the governance of the UTC, and act as mentors to both staff and students to enable everyone to develop.

Location

This UTC is in its very early stages and our priority is to ascertain whether there is a need for such a school in the Worcestershire area. Therefore a site has not yet been considered. However, any chosen site would be within the Worcestershire area and would have excellent transport links and provide the necessary facilities and links for students wishing to attend.

Tell Us Your Thoughts

We are currently undergoing a period of consultation with local parents and carers, potential students, and local employers and organisations to understand whether there is a need for a UTC.

Please visit our website at:

www.worcestershire.gov.uk/UTCworcestershire or our Facebook page for links to our online survey where you can provide us with valuable feedback.

Contact Us

If you need to contact the team please use the following information:

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