

Scarborough UTC News Flash Friday 11th January 2019

INTRODUCTION

Dear parent/carer

It is always excellent to be back at College at the start of a new year. January is a time for reflection on the previous year and looking forward positively to what 2019 has in store for us.

Over the Christmas break we took some time to analyse the feedback you gave us through the parent view surveys completed as part of our parent evenings. To date we have received 49 responses and the data suggests that we are working well together in our goal of providing excellent education for your children. I look forward to continuing this positive and upward journey as we work towards achieving our vision for Scarborough UTC as a centre of excellence for technical education.

We have done much work over the last two terms on improving attendance at the UTC and there have been improvements. The reality is, however that attendance still requires improvement. As we focus on a new year and new opportunities can I remind all parents of the importance of good attendance. Good attendance at Scarborough UTC is 96.5% with the ideal being 100%. We have a number of students who achieve 100% attendance each term and these students are rewarded through the termly awards assemblies. Attendance below 96.5% will have a significant impact on your child's achievement at college. Your support and determination for good attendance for your child is essential.

We have carried out a review of our approach to students' use of mobile electronic devices in college. This review has involved both staff and student leaders and has resulted in a detailed Electronic Devices Policy, which you can access here:

www.scarboroughutc.co.uk/parents/policies-forms/

In line with our business ethos we have retained the privilege for students to be able to bring and use electronic devices at college, providing they are used appropriately and in line with this policy. Please can you take the time to read and understand the expectations set out in the policy in support of your son/daughter. All students have been briefed on the policy through assemblies.

I would like to take this opportunity to welcome and introduce to you our new Vice Principal, Rachel Fearnough who will be leading on Ethos and Sixth Form. Rachel has been working for a number of years at a successful school in Wolverhampton and is returning to her roots in Scarborough. I trust you will be able to make her feel a welcome part of the Scarborough UTC community.

Thank you for your support.

Mr Kilgour

SAFEGUARDING

Each month I will be providing information on safeguarding to ensure you are all aware of any particular issues that our young people may be facing. This month, the focus is on online safety and Fake News.

The National Online Safety Team have created a free online safety guide for schools to share with parents, carers, staff and children about 'Fake News'; the epidemic plaguing our social media timelines and influencing behaviours across the globe. The links to the resource are below:

TWITTER: <https://twitter.com/natonlinesafety/status/1082967693202993152>

FACEBOOK: <https://www.facebook.com/NationalOnlineSafety/photos/a.1681508315488685/1946517172321130/?type=3&theater>

IN ASSEMBLIES THIS WEEK

Assembly for year 10 and 11 this week was led by Mr Kilgour and focused on New Year resolutions. The Roman god Janus first gave us the idea of resolutions over 2000 years ago. This two faced god, had one face that looked back over the previous year and one that looked forward to the new year. Students were encouraged to set goals for positive achievements at the UTC in 2019.

YEAR 11 PREPARATION FOR SUCCESS EVENING

In preparation for our year 11 students' first public examinations in summer 2019 we will be holding a Preparation for Success Evening on Thursday 17th January from 6.30pm for all year 11 parents and their son or daughter. During this evening we will explain in detail the examination process and through interactive sessions how your son/daughter can prepare and revise effectively for their examinations. We will also provide a range of resources and websites to support this process. We do hope that you can take the time out to attend this important evening.

YEAR 10 AND 12 WORK EXPERIENCE

Work Experience for Year 10 and Year 12 permission forms need to be returned as soon as possible to facilitate the insurance and health and safety checks. It is good news that once again our students are gaining experience of the working world and developing their employability skills. Copies of the paper work can be found on the link below:

www.scarboroughutc.co.uk/parents/parent-letters/

TECHNICAL EXCELLENCE

What do you do when you have engineering exams taking place, but a crucial piece of equipment needed to make components for the students breaks down?? Well thankfully a quick call to our employer partners at Plaxton and within the hour they had manufactured exactly what we needed. Another example of how working together, with local industry, makes our UTC unique and just one of many ways the partnerships we forge with employers across our region benefit our students.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Preparation for Success Evening	Thursday 17 th January 2019 6.30pm
Open Evening	Thursday 21 st February 2019
Spring half term	25 th February – 1 March 2019
End of Spring Term	12 th April 2019
Easter holiday	15 th April – 26 th April 2019
INSET Day	Monday 29 th April 2019
First Day of summer term for students	Tuesday 30 th April 2019