



# Year 10 Prospectus 2026/27

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**Innovate. Collaborate. Engineer.**



# Principal's Welcome

When I was asked to join UTC Leeds, I was quite simply delighted. The core vision – to inspire the next generation of leading engineers, scientists and innovators – is one that is close to my heart both personally and professionally.

UTC Leeds is fortunate to benefit from strong governance, which has shaped this core vision through the eyes of business and industry experts. Who better to shape the education of our future STEM innovators than their future educators and employers? With strong business links and a working partnership with the University of Leeds, we aim to meet local demand for highly skilled, employable young people and to improve the life chances of our students.

Baker Dearing Educational Trust, our committed governors and our business partners have ensured that UTC Leeds has the best equipment and technology at our disposal. With a commitment to a stimulating and relevant curriculum, cutting-edge technologies and employer-led projects, students leaving UTC Leeds are recognised as young people with a strong ambition to succeed and advanced skills for the modern-day workplace.

Whether you're a prospective student, parent or a business that wants to shape the future of STEM education, we'd love to meet you.

**Hannah Wilson**  
Principal



**Scan the QR code  
to hear more from  
our principal!**

# Introducing UTC Leeds

## **Preparing young people for high-quality careers.**

University Technical Colleges (UTCs) have been designed to meet the needs of employers for up-and-coming young talent with the right skillsets and knowledge to fill the jobs of tomorrow.

UTCs take students as young as 14 and offer a combination of technical qualifications alongside GCSEs and A Levels. This combination of academic and technical learning is unique, equipping students for professional careers through places at top universities as well as higher and advanced apprenticeships.

Opened in September 2016, UTC Leeds offers high-tech, cutting-edge facilities and a first-class educational experience. The UTC is the first school in the Leeds City Region to provide high-quality academic and vocational training focused specifically on the engineering and advanced technology sectors.

Our curriculum is developed with global and regional employers as well as the University of Leeds, and the learning experience includes a broad range of activities with industry professionals and academic experts.

UTC Leeds is supported by over 70 employers, including major industry names such as Stantec, Siemens and Unilever. Working regularly with employer partners in a professional work environment where expectations are high ensures that students gain the work ethic and attitude that employers are looking for.

Project work is focused on solving real-world issues, not just those relating to business, but also social, medical and environmental challenges. Inspirational events and national competitions form a key part of students' studies. In addition, students are able to experience a range of city-wide business events featuring leading speakers from across STEM, supporting their learning while contributing to an enjoyable, varied educational experience.





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**“What’s different about teaching Maths at a UTC is the way the students’ studies are linked to practical work. Maths isn’t just Maths in isolation, it’s linked to engineering so students can understand Maths in context.”**

*– Tim Smeaton, Head of KS4*

# A Vision for the Future

**100% of our students go on to excellent destinations, including top universities and apprenticeships with global employers!**

Visit [https://bit.ly/UTCKS4\\_Careers](https://bit.ly/UTCKS4_Careers) to find out more.

It's our vision to develop students who will make a valuable and lifelong contribution to society and various fields within STEM.

Our students study a stimulating and relevant curriculum using cutting-edge technologies and employer-led projects to deliver a challenging, well-rounded education.

Students leaving UTC Leeds are recognised as young people with a **strong ambition** to succeed, who are **independent learners** and **creative problem solvers** with the social and technical skills that employers look for in today's competitive market.







# Why UTC Leeds?

## 1. Real-world Projects

UTC Leeds students take on real challenges from the world of work, providing them with the technical, personal and professional skills needed to stand out from the crowd.

### **Case Study: Braime Group Belt Elevators**

Braime Group is a manufacturing company that distributes bulk material handling components. They were working on a problem of how to improve the production of small belt bucket elevators and wanted our students to design a portable, safe and fully adjustable alternative.

Students designed proposals using computer-aided design (CAD) and made prototypes which they presented to the engineers at Braime. The winning design was fabricated and used by Braime Group, meaning our students had a part in further developing the company's global success story.

## 2. Chance to Make a Difference

UTC Leeds students have opportunities to work on projects which have a real positive impact on the community both locally and globally.

### **Case Study: Team UnLimbited Artificial Limbs**

UTC Leeds students were asked to take part in a global project called 'Team UnLimbited' to create prosthetic limbs for children in Africa who had lost limbs in landmine blasts. Using our 3D printers, students produced mechanical hands which gave enough movement to pick up a variety of objects. Some users have even learned to ride a bike or play the piano!





### 3. Employer-led Learning

Our students learn from local employers in a range of roles through masterclasses, mentoring sessions, trips and work experience. We even have an Annual Interview Day where students are given the chance to take part in mock interviews with a variety of employers who can provide valuable feedback.

We have a huge range of fantastic Industry Partners, including:



## 4. Academic Excellence

UTC Leeds students benefit from the knowledge and experience of teachers who are experts in their field. Many of our teaching staff have previously worked in industry, and are able to draw upon this first-hand understanding to deliver the highest quality teaching and learning. The UTC is sponsored by the University of Leeds, which is one of the largest higher education institutions in the UK and among the top 100 universities in the world for engineering and technology.

## 5. Cutting-edge Facilities

At UTC Leeds, we have all the facilities you need to succeed in your studies. As well as the usual areas that you would expect in any school or college (classrooms, science labs, ICT suites), we have a range of specialised spaces and equipment to give you hands-on experience in engineering. This includes CAD machines, CNC equipment and 3D printers!



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**“In my new job I’ll be using similar Computer Aided Design software to the Autodesk software I’ve used before at the UTC, so I’m not just going in blind, I already have knowledge and experience. I’m one step ahead, I’m not starting from scratch.”**

*– Callum B, Previous Student*

## 6. Professional Environment

All of our students are focused on their futures and are here to learn. From how we expect our students to dress, to the independence they receive, to the length of the college day, the professional environment at the UTC prepares our students for the world of work.



**Scan the QR code  
to see UTC Leeds  
in action!**

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**“They do treat you like adults. We had to do the work and the deadlines were sometimes tight, but that’s good, it makes you work harder.”**

*– Shaan B, Previous Student*

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**“Being at the UTC is more like being at work. They treat you like young adults and they have expert teachers.”**

*– Rosanna O, Previous Student*





# Studying at UTC Leeds

## Employability Skills

At UTC Leeds, we have identified a number of key skills we want our students to develop to make them highly employable when they leave the UTC.

These are:

- Self-Management & Organisation
- Teamwork & Collaboration
- Technical Confidence & Skills
- Enquiry & Analysis
- Problem Solving & Resilience
- Creativity & Ingenuity
- Leadership & Management



## Our Future Engineers Manifesto

Alongside our employability skills, we also aim to:

1. Create Future Engineers who understand the **transformative** and **enhancing** capabilities of Engineering.
2. Create Future Engineers who have been exposed to **industry**, with an understanding of how industry works and how to conduct themselves in those environments.
3. Develop Future Engineers who favour **simplicity** and **impact** over convoluted approaches and unnecessary complexity.
4. Produce **collaborative, conscientious** Future Engineers who have the ability to learn and gain inspiration from the people and places around them.
5. Generate **progressive** Future Engineers who have a raised awareness of new and developing technologies and their potential impact on society.
6. Develop **critically reflective** Future Engineers who are not afraid to challenge their environments and question the status quo.

## GCSEs & Technical Qualifications

### STEM-Based Curriculum

#### Core Curriculum

All GCSE students at UTC Leeds study a core curriculum that blends academic study with technical learning, ensuring a strong foundation for any STEM career:

Mathematics

English Language

English Literature

Combined or Separate Sciences

Engineering Manufacture

Engineering Design

This core is central to our identity as a specialist STEM college and is studied by all students.

### Specialist Options and Career Pathways

In addition to the core subjects, students can begin to specialise based on their individual interests and career ambitions. These optional subjects help students explore specific pathways within STEM:

#### **Computer Science → Software Engineer**

Learn to design and develop software systems, applications, and algorithms using programming and problem-solving skills.

#### **Geography → Environmental Engineer**

Apply understanding of earth systems to tackle real-world challenges like climate change, pollution, and sustainability.

#### **3D Art and Design → Product Design Engineer**

Combine creativity with technical skills to design and prototype products using CAD and 3D modelling tools.

#### **Programmable Systems and Operations → Automation Engineer**

Gain experience with robotics, PLCs, and automated systems used in advanced manufacturing and tech sectors.

#### **The Built Environment → Civil Engineer**

Explore the planning, design, and construction of infrastructure projects—focusing on safety, sustainability, and innovation.

### Building STEM Knowledge and Skills

Students develop key STEM competencies through a rich programme of practical learning and real-world engagement, including:

**Industry-Led Projects:** Collaborating in teams on challenges set by engineering and tech professionals.

**Professional Engagement:** Learning directly from industry leaders and experts.

**Career Insights:** Understanding different STEM careers through regular encounters with professionals.

**University Partnerships:** Working with academic staff from the University of Leeds' engineering and science faculties.

**Mentorship:** Developing communication, confidence, and networking skills through one-to-one mentoring.

Developing Life Skills and Independence beyond academic learning, UTC Leeds equips students with the life skills and confidence they need to thrive in further education, apprenticeships, and employment:

**Employability Skills:** Embedded throughout the curriculum to ensure students are workplace-ready.

**Extracurricular Projects:** Opportunities to lead and contribute to a variety of enrichment activities.

**Personal Development:** Weekly lessons in RE, PSHE, citizenship, and PE build wider knowledge and self-awareness.

**Careers Education:** High-quality, personalised careers guidance to support informed and ambitious next steps.

# Student Experience

## Why choose UTC Leeds?

“I’ve always enjoyed taking things apart and putting them back together – so coming here just made sense! My old school didn’t offer the same level of product design or engineering.” – *James, Y11 Graduate*

“It felt like a better choice than my old school because they only offered one class for Design and Technology and all the equipment was out of date. The UTC is a good school for the engineering side and a good school overall.” – *Harry, Y11 Graduate*

## What’s it like to study here?

“I walked in and it just felt right. I liked all the Engineering facilities and the general vibe of the place. It’s just great, they’re all very lovely here.” – *Eloisa, Y13 Graduate*

“Because it’s a small school everyone is like a family.” – *Rosanna, Y11 Graduate*

## What’s the best thing about UTC Leeds?

“The greatest thing about the UTC is that you’re not just learning about how to programme something, you’re actually programming it, then using it.” – *Daniel, Y13 Graduate*

“The amount of equipment in this college is second to none. I have never seen as much anywhere else.” – *Callum, Y13 Graduate*



Scan the QR code  
to hear more from  
our students!



# Parent Voice

## PARENT VOICE

*Our daughter is really enjoying it – like a different kid.*

*Thank you for the change you have helped her make, allowing her to be her true self.*

## PARENT VOICE

*He never used to speak about school but has started to come home with stories and he is really enjoying it!*

## PARENT VOICE

*Our son loves Computing and the fact he is now being challenged in all of his lessons. UTC Leeds has handled the transition really well.*

## PARENT VOICE

*Joining UTC has been a big adjustment but our daughter is absolutely loving it! She seems happy, is enjoying her courses and has made new friends.*

# Pathways After KS4

At the UTC, excellence is our driving force. We want to ensure that you are equipped for a fulfilling and rewarding career, whether you progress onto an apprenticeship, into university, or directly into employment supported by continuing professional development.

At every stage of your journey with us, you will have access to independent advice and guidance to help you choose the right pathway for you.

## Level 3 Qualifications (Post-GCSE)

- **UTC Leeds Sixth Form**

At UTC Leeds, the natural progression for our Year 11 students is to continue into our Sixth Form, where they can build on their technical and academic foundations. We offer a range of T Levels, vocational pathways, and A Level subjects, all shaped by an employer-led curriculum. With a strong focus on STEM subjects, our Sixth Form is designed to develop confident, skilled, and career-ready students, fully prepared for university, apprenticeships, or industry.

- **Advanced Apprenticeships**

Advanced (Level 3) Apprenticeships provide first-hand experience in a particular job or sector, combining the benefits of employment and education. They are roughly the equivalent of two A Level passes (although some people with A Levels go on to do these types of apprenticeships).

## Post-18 Options

- **University**

Did you know that there are over 100 universities in the UK? Where you can go will depend on the degree you want to study, and the Level 3 qualifications you hold. Studying at university allows you to gain a more in-depth understanding of your subject through lectures and seminars.

- **Higher Apprenticeships**

Higher Apprenticeships are equivalent to Foundation Degrees. Similarly to Advanced Apprenticeships, they allow you to spend most of your time in a work setting, with some time in an education setting.

- **Degree Apprenticeships**

A Degree Apprenticeship allows you to combine having a job with a university degree. At the end you will (most of the time) gain an undergraduate or postgraduate degree, as well as a wealth of work experience.

- **Employment**

Of course, you don't have to stay in any form of formal education after 18. For more information and support in launching your career, visit

[https://bit.ly/UTCKS4\\_Careers](https://bit.ly/UTCKS4_Careers)

# Apply now!

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UTC Leeds admits students into Year 10 and Year 12.

Please complete an application form on  
<https://bit.ly/KS4Prospectus>  
or contact the admissions team on **0113 353 0140**.

## Interested but want to know more?

open events - 3 a year in October, December and February,  
tickets available to book from September 2025

Look out for upcoming Open Events.  
To stay up to date, follow us **@UTCLeeds!**













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