



Berkeley Green UTC – Weekly News

Friday 3rd November 2017

Message from the Principal

Dear Parents, Carers and Students

The majority of our students have returned fresh and enthusiastic after their break, for the start of Term 2. Contractors were in over the half term finishing off commissioning in the machine shop; improving availability of drinking water for students and making sure the building will be nice and warm for the winter period. In addition, a significant amount of our engineering and science equipment has now been delivered. We are now proud owners of two 3D printers, an excellent laser cutter, a class set of digital microscopes, and six of the latest Oculus Rift Virtual Reality Headsets, all of which will be in action on our Open Days on 4th and 25th November.

Our attendance this year so far stands at about 93%, significantly lower than our target. A large proportion of this absence is associated with students getting up too late and hence missing the bus. This is disappointing and is recorded as an Unauthorised Absence, which will not look good on any student's future reference for university or employment. We recognise the challenge of getting teenagers out of bed in the morning and trust if we all work together in this matter we can improve the situation.

This week we started our Year 10 enrichment programme with a variety of activities that students can choose from on a Wednesday afternoon. These include a Drama club, Rugby, Minting Money and Retro Gaming. Each half term students will be available to choose from a different range dependent on their interests and that of the staff! Year 12 students have been introduced to the Extended Project Qualification (EPQ) and will be busily researching a suitable project in order to increase their UCAS points.

Kind Regards

Paul Ramage

Principal – SGS Berkeley Green UTC



Celebrations

After a restful half term the students have returned to the UTC full of enthusiasm for their learning, and the amount of good attitude to learning points achieved this week is 50% higher than the week before the half term break. Congratulations to Freddie McCabe (year 10) and Thomas Durn (year 12) for being students of the week this week. They have consistently shown the outstanding attitude to learning we expect from our students in all of their lessons.

End of Autumn term - change of date

In order to bring us in to line with other schools in Gloucestershire we will be finishing the Autumn Term on Friday 15th December - not Monday 18th December as previously appeared on the website. Monday 18th December will now be an inset day for staff only. So that students get the same number of days at the UTC, Monday 4th June will now be a normal UTC day (not an inset day). The website has been changed to reflect this.