

LINCOLN UTC NEWSLETTER

MAY 2020

Vice Principals Foreword

What have you achieved so far?

With time on our hands and a wandering mind I do hope that you have managed to get to grips with something new. For me, I have become a temporary primary school teacher focusing on maths, English and project work. I now know exactly where everything (well, nearly everything) is in Aldi and Lidl as I am shopping for my family as well as my parents and my partners parents. I have tried to bake several times but this is not something that I am particularly gifted at so I will not be applying for the Great British Bake Off, although I am a worthy contender for a prize on Nailed It! I have started Zwifting and now complete about 200km every week. I even tried to skateboard and attempted a trick my 9 year old son showed me...that didn't end well!

If you haven't already...do something new!

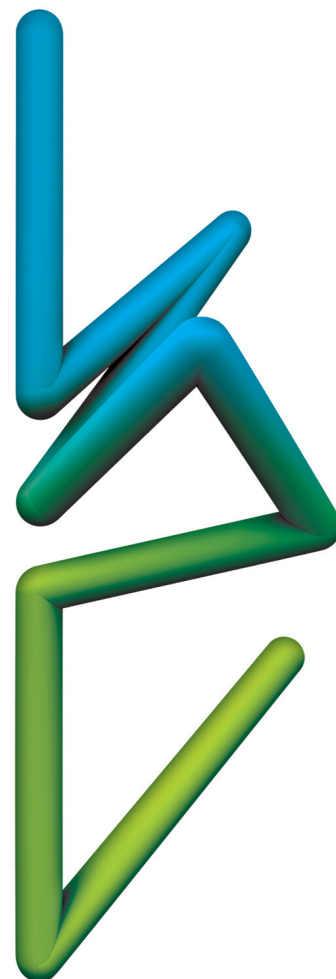
As our Principal John Morrison suggested a few weeks ago: 'Keep busy. Do something that will be of some benefit to you in the future.'

It goes without saying that the teachers at Lincoln UTC are missing all our students. The UTC is a very lonely place to be without students, teachers and their teaching as well as without the hustle and bustle of break and lunchtime. I am sure that we all look forward, in one way or another, to returning to a more 'normal' way of life both personally, at home, as well as professionally, at school.

Talking of teaching, you will all know that we have launched 'live' lessons on Google Classrooms. You will see me from time to time attending these as a student as I want to know that you are all accessing the very best remote support that we can provide you with. Please attend all live lessons as we are now covering new content for all subjects across year 10 and year 12.

Take care and stay alert!

Stuart Hamer
Vice Principal of Lincoln UTC



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ENGINEERING SAVES LIVES

At the UTC we always encourage our students to apply their learning to the bigger picture, and to connect it to real life contexts and experiences. In the current Covid-19 crisis, engineers are saving lives every single day. Innovation is the bread and butter of an engineer and by coming up with new ideas and finding better ways to operate, engineers at all levels are contributing to the fight against the virus.

UTC students, Jonty Horn and Janneke Riches, have both responded to requests for Personal Protection Equipment (PPE) for frontline NHS staff by utilising 3D printing to manufacture face shields in their own homes.

Year 13 student Janneke joined the UTC in 2016 and following the culmination of her studies plans to study a BA (Hons) in Product Design at university starting this September. Year 11 student Jonty has studied a STEM based curriculum of GCSEs at the UTC for the past two years and plans to continue his studies with the goal of a future career in engineering.

The current nationwide shortage of PPE prompted both students to put their engineering skills into practise by finding a solution to the problem. Over the past month they have donated hundreds of face shields to various local health organisations free of charge.

Our engineering staff have also been busy making face shields, using a design that has been developed and produced by Kitronik, a materials supplier for Design and Technology in schools. So far they have delivered 100 face shields to the Neonatal Ward at Lincoln County Hospital, and plan to continue to produce and supply the shields as needed.

Mr Fielding, our Head of Engineering, has also been collaborating with engineering staff from other local secondary schools to produce valves for CPAP devices used to treat Covid-19 patients at Lincoln County Hospital. Experts have worked out that CPAP (sleep apnoea treatment) devices can be used for oxygen therapy on non-critical Covid-19 patients, preventing the need for an invasive ventilator. Patients have been shown to make a remarkable turnaround and full recovery as a result of this treatment. Mr Fielding responded to requests from United Lincolnshire Hospitals NHS Trust, and has been using 3D printing equipment from the UTC to print small batches of valves that allow the oxygen supply to enter the circuit of the CPAP device.

John Morrison, Principal of Lincoln UTC said: "It's fantastic to see both students and staff taking the initiative and using their experience and skills in engineering to help others in a time of crisis. Engineers across the world are saving lives and I'm so proud that members of the UTC are part of that effort."



STAFF LOCKDOWN UPDATE

Despite being on lockdown, the UTC staff have been spending their time productively and learning new skills.



Mrs Caudle has been learning to play "Always Look on the Bright side of Life" (Monty Python) on her ukelele.



Over the past 4 weeks Mr Hamer has been out on his road bike every day and has clocked up about 400km. He has also signed up to Zwift, an online virtual world that has thousands riding live at one time.



Miss Lowe has been practising yoga every morning.



Mrs Walker has been agility training her dogs.



Mr Fielding has been learning to fly a drone.

MEET THE NEW UTC TEACHERS



Mrs Bennett - Teacher of English

My name is Rachael Bennett and I have been working in education for over twenty years. During this time I have undertaken a variety of roles, including teacher of English, Literacy Lead, Behaviour and Attendance Lead, Head of English, Consultant for the Local Authority, as well as being seconded to senior leadership positions. These roles have afforded me the opportunity to work with a wide variety of staff, support and challenge students to be the best that they can be, whilst also developing a strategic overview of education. I have had the privilege of writing materials that have been used nationally to support whole school development and worked closely with students to bring about real change.

A few years ago my family relocated to Spain to experience international education, as well as a new way of life. This gave me the chance to appreciate education from a international perspective. I have taught students from Spain to Germany and Switzerland to Jamaica, all of which succeed in bringing colour to the classroom. We are currently in full lockdown in Spain, where, as a family, we have been spending our time keeping fit - running up and down our garden - learning sign language and trying to develop our Spanish skills, with my husband and daughter having much more success than I, that said this is something I aim to continue learning.



Due to family circumstances we are relocating back to the UK. We are returning to Lincolnshire where our daughter was born and I am pleased to be working at the UTC, which was the only school for which I applied. This was born out of my knowledge of the school. Upon visiting I was impressed with the students that I met and the strong feeling of community that was apparent everywhere in the school. For me the UTC appears to embody what it means to be a school and I am looking forward to joining the team in September.

Until then, keep safe!

MEET THE NEW UTC TEACHERS

Mr Skinner - Teacher of Mathematics

My name is Matt Skinner, and I'm a Mathematician and Physicist. My goal is to try and understand the world around us and to work out how, and to question why, things happen in order to inspire the next generation of over-thinkers! I love to find out new information and am always motivated by new and interesting ideas, and I'm even more fascinated by those things we can't answer and may never be able to answer! I enjoy running, cooking, reading good books and journals, and am a member of both the Institute of Mathematics and the Institute of Physics. If I'm not at work or working, I'm usually outside and in the fresh air or tinkering with old clocks or watches.

I've been a Teaching Assistant at Lincoln UTC for almost 2 years now but I'm looking at the next step in my career, and to carry on the great relationships I've made with both staff and students, but in a more front facing role! I'm very much looking forward to the challenges that this will bring and also to working with, and learning from, new people.

Lockdown for me has been spent completing my BSc in Mathematics and Physics, improving my cooking skills (with various degrees of success!!) and started to do some nature photography. I've also tried to read a new book every week on a variety of topics, and a combination of fiction and non-fiction.



Mr Lane - Teacher of Engineering

For many years I taught design technology and graphic design in Kent and Sussex. As a family we were offered a great opportunity to live out in New Zealand and I spent 7 years there teaching product design, graphic products and metalwork. Upon returning to the UK we settled in Lincolnshire to be near family and I have taught a range of disciplines including art, photography, ceramics and engineering.

I have also worked as a freelance photographer and in the building trade which gives me a very broad range of experiences and skills. Currently I am teaching engineering and design technology at Sir Robert Pattinson Academy.

During lockdown I have been setting and marking work but also stripping out the stair carpet, polishing and painting the stairs, building a deck and rebuilding a fish pond among other things.

I am however, excited to be joining Lincoln UTC with its incredible facilities and great staff. In my limited experience of the college, its ethos and the focus of staff and students has been extremely positive and forward thinking. I particularly enjoy the challenge of problem solving activities and I look forward to contributing to the engineering department, bringing some new skills and utilising new equipment.



UNIVERSITY VIRTUAL CLASSROOM

In response to Covid-19 the University of Lincoln have launched a dedicated online learning space, 'Virtual Classroom' for students to join for lots of support and activities during these challenging times.

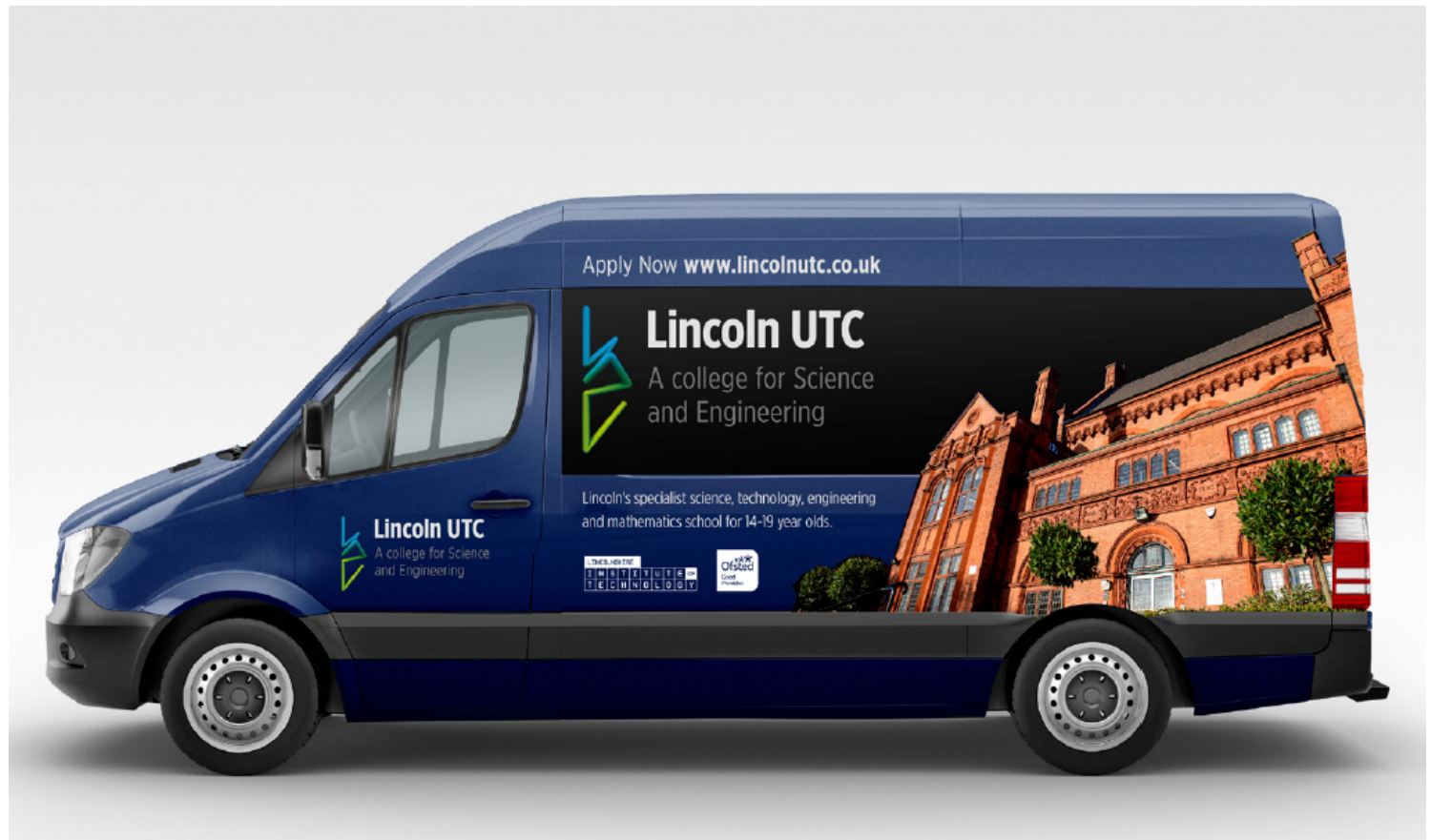
Join the Virtual Classroom at 2pm every Wednesday for interactive and educational talks from an exciting line up of speakers!

Over the past couple of weeks these live lectures have featured two of Lincoln UTC's governors, Professor Libby John (Head of the College of Science and Engineering at the University of Lincoln) and Dr Chris Headleand (Associate Professor and Programme Leader School of Computer Science at the University of Lincoln).



NEW UTC MINIBUS

We are excited to reveal the design for our new UTC minibus!



CAREERS

STUDENT LAND ARMY

The Greater Lincolnshire LEP are calling on students to support national food security through local food supply chains to work on British farms due to the Covid-19 pandemic. The British summer harvest is about to begin and they need to enlist students to help bring in the harvest and to help keep the nation fed.

The UK is rapidly approaching the peak harvest season and 80,000 seasonal workers are needed to help bring in the harvest from the end of May and across the summer, to bring in the UK harvest on British farms.

A LEP call is therefore going out for a Student Land Army - targeted at 6th formers, further education colleges, and Universities and higher education facilities across Lincolnshire for students on a break from education to join the national push. Find out more information at www.greaterlincolnshirelep.co.uk

Y12 UCAS APPLICATIONS

On Tuesday 19th May 2020 the university application portal known for short as UCAS will open for 2020-21 applications for entry into university in the autumn of 2021.

When the portal goes live our year 12 students will need to sign up and link their address to Lincoln UTC. By linking the application it enables teachers to add predicted grades and a reference to go alongside your own personal statement. To link an account students will need a BUZZWORD. The BUZZWORD for Lincoln UTC is: SuccessatLincolnUTC

Once logged in you will be able to see the various sections to complete. You can make a start on these, but there is no rush! The idea is that you start the process. My recommendation is that you look to complete the following sections by the end of June: Personal Details, Additional Information, Student Finance.

Start by researching universities and courses - try registering for UCAS Hub and the universities own web pages. Start completing the education section with previous examination results, however, some students will be unable to complete this as they may get examination results this summer. My final recommendation is that by the end of August you complete a DRAFT of your personal statement.

Applications are not able to be submitted to universities until September at the earliest. The main undergraduate application deadlines are currently the same as previous years - 15 October and 15 January. However, UCAS may review and monitor these in line with the impact of the coronavirus.

If you are thinking of Oxford or Cambridge or medical/vet/dentistry schools you need to meet the earlier deadline of 15 October. If this is applicable to you send me an email and let me know as there may be entry examinations i.e. UCAT for medicine and dentistry.

My intention is to run an online question and answer session in June. I will send these details out next month. In addition, there will be life guidance sessions on the UCAS process in September (or if we return to school before the summer holidays in July). However, if you have any questions then please email me.

Kind regards,

Mr Little

SCIENCE VACANCY

Teacher of Science at the Lincoln University Technical College
September 2020 start MPS / UPS Full time, permanent position
Well suited to a newly or recently qualified teacher

Lincoln UTC does not actually have any staff vacancies ... teaching or non-teaching. We are fully staffed and nobody is planning to leave this year. We are, however, growing in popularity and expect to recruit strongly this coming September, despite the Covid-19 school closures. We want to increase the total size of the teaching team so that we have the capacity to meet the anticipated additional demand without compromise and without increasing average class size (currently 22 in Key Stage 4).

We wish to appoint an additional science teacher, ideally with the ability to teach chemistry or physics. The science department at Lincoln UTC is exceptionally strong and well-led (as you might expect in a specialist STEM college). We are very well placed to support someone at the beginning of their teaching career ... including newly qualified teachers whose opportunities for school placement experience may have been limited by the current restrictions.

Lincoln UTC is a unique learning environment. We are a 14 to 18 specialist college for science, technology, engineering and maths. Most visitors to the college assume (wrongly) that we are either a selective or a fee-paying private school. This misunderstanding initially stems from the stunning buildings we are fortunate enough to work in. Our Victorian, listed building at the front is reminiscent of Hogwarts. To the rear of the site, our state of the art laboratories and workshops are housed in an equally impressive, but totally contrasting, £9 million new build. The atmosphere within the college is just as impressive as the physical learning environment. Our students don't wear uniform. They all (right down to year 10) wear business dress. They look like adults and they behave like adults. This is an unusually calm, purposeful and respectful learning community.

When Ofsted inspected the UTC in June 2019 (two good and three outstanding judgements), they commented on the 'strong and supportive culture and the exceptionally high staff morale'. Pupil behaviour and conduct were described as 'impeccable'. They went on to say that, 'the behaviour of pupils is outstanding. Pupils have exceptionally positive attitudes towards their learning.'

If you would like to find out more about the college or about this position please contact the Principal, John Morrison, for an informal chat on 01522 775990 (switchboard) or on 07393 515877.

