



18 December 2025

Dear Parent/Carer,

It's a pleasure to write to you just before we break for Christmas and as we look back on a long and successful term at the UTC. Our Year 11 and Year 13 mock exam results were the best the school has ever had and our Year 10 and Year 12 students are now well settled into life at the UTC. Below you'll find some important notices about upcoming events and a brief look back at highlights from the term.

Friday 19th December

A reminder that our dismissal times tomorrow are:

- Year 13 11.25am
- Year 10, 11 and 12 12.10pm

Students will be able to leave at these times and we ask that they make their way home quickly to begin their holidays, avoiding any noise and disturbance in the community.

Christmas Holidays (Monday 22nd December Monday 5th January)

School is closed for the two weeks from Monday 22nd December, calls and emails will not be answered during this time. On Monday 5th January, there will be an INSET day. Students are expected back to school from their holidays at 8.40am on Tuesday 6th January.

School Production

I'm proud to announce that our annual National Theatre Connections performance will take place on the following dates at Mulberry UTC:

22/04/2026 - 6pm

24/04/2026 - 4pm <https://buytickets.at/mulberryutc/1992970>

...and at Hornchurch Theatre - <https://queens-theatre.co.uk/book/?pid=18318&iid=285401>

01/05/2026 7pm

Tickets are free but you do need to book so please do so.

Open Evenings and Open Mornings

Thursday 15 January is the second of our Open Evenings this year. This means the school will close at the slightly earlier time of **2.10pm on 15 January** to give staff time to prepare for the event.

The main purpose of the event is to attract new students to the UTC, but if you as parents would like to use this as an opportunity to look round then please feel free to join us! This will be particularly

relevant if you are a current Year 11 parent and are considering the UTC for Year 12. We will also be asking lots of students to stay and help us to make the evening a success.

We will be asking lots of the students to act as ambassadors for us, so look out for a permission slip that you may need to sign so that your child can come and help us on the evening.

We are also opening up the school from 9am-10am on Friday 23rd January and Friday 30th January. This is an excellent opportunity to see the school in action. Please do come along or recommend to family/friends if they are considering sending their child to the UTC.

Year 10 Assessments - Tuesday 6th January - Friday 9th January 2026

Year 10 students will be involved in assessments across all subjects when we return from the Christmas break. These assessments will take place during lessons and will assess both the content taught to date and the skills important for success in each subject. These assessments are in place to ensure we have an overview of each student's strengths and areas for improvements so that we can ensure we tailor our teaching to support successful progress for all. Teachers will be setting revision activities as homework which you can view on edulink. You will receive the results of these assessments in our Year 10 reports that will be sent on or before Friday 30th January 2026. Please contact your child's teacher(s) if you have any questions regarding the upcoming assessments.

CTEC National Module Exams - Wednesday 7th January - Friday 16th January 2026

CTEC students will be sitting CTEC Module Exams in January. These are national exams that contribute significantly to your child's final CTEC grade. Students have been given a physical copy of their exam timetable by their tutors. Exam timetables can also be viewed on the edulink app. Students are reminded that they must register for exams a minimum of 30 minutes before the start of the exam in the innovation lab (8.30am for AM exams / 1.00pm for PM exams). Students must bring their school ID and must also bring the correct equipment. This is particularly important for scientific calculators as often students complain that they find the calculators they borrow in the exam work differently to the one they are used to. All students will have been given specific revision guidance by their teachers. All homework can be viewed by parents/carers on the edulink app. Please contact your child's teacher(s) if you have any questions regarding the upcoming exams.

A Level Mock Exams - Monday 19th January - Wednesday 21st January 2026

A Level students will be sitting mock exams between Monday 19th January and Wednesday 21st January. These mock exams will assess the content covered to date and will be as representative of a real A Level paper as possible. Mock exams will take place in the Theatre to allow students to have the full exam experience. The mock exams are in place to ensure we have an overview of each student's strengths and areas for improvements so that we can ensure we tailor our teaching to support successful progress for all. Teachers will be setting revision activities as homework which you can view on edulink. You will receive the results of these assessments in our Year 12 reports that will be sent on or before Friday 13th February 2026. Please contact your child's teacher(s) if you have any questions regarding the upcoming mock exams

The Importance of Attendance

There is a great deal of research that shows the clear link between achievement and attendance. The more your child is at school, the better they will do. Students with attendance over 95% generally do one grade better than students with attendance below 85%. We will be writing next week to update you on your child's attendance this half term, we will also be contacting

parents/carers individually where attendance is a concern. We want to support and assist and will work with you constructively to get your child where they need to be – in the UTC and studying for their future.

Behaviour Expectations

In line with Mulberry UTC's Behaviour Policy, we would like to make clear that:

- Any student who walks away from a member of staff when being spoken to or given a direct instruction will receive at least one day in Internal Exclusion.
- This behaviour constitutes defiance under the school's behaviour policy.
<https://www.mulberryutc.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/03/12D.-MUTC-Behaviour-Policy-2024-5.pdf>

When staff speak to students, it is to ensure safety, resolve issues quickly, and support students in being where they need to be. Walking away undermines this process and may create safeguarding concerns. Clear boundaries and consistent consequences are in place to support students in making positive choices.

KS5 Independent Study

We would like to remind parents and carers of students in Key Stage 5 that Independent Study is a registered, timetabled lesson.

- Students must attend Independent Study as they would any other lesson and it is not optional
- Attendance is monitored and recorded

Independent Study is designed to support academic success and effective preparation for qualifications.

Water Bottles and Student Wellbeing

We encourage all students to bring a refillable water bottle to school each day. Staying hydrated supports students' health, wellbeing, focus, and learning, and we hope this will help reduce the consumption of fizzy and energy drinks.

Please note:

- Energy drinks and high-caffeine drinks are banned items on site
- Water refill stations are available on every floor and disposable cups are not provided

Water bottles should be clearly labelled with the student's name, and students should refill bottles during break and lunchtime.

Many thanks for all your support as parents/carers. If you would like to get in touch with me about the contents of this letter or any other matter then please write directly dseed@mulberryschoolstrust.org. I'm always happy to help.

Yours sincerely



Daniel Seed
Principal