

# UCKFIELD COMMUNITY TECHNOLOGY COLLEGE



# REALISING POTENTIAL



## OUR AIM IS TRUE

Our College motto is 'Realising Potential'. At UCTC we are utterly dedicated to providing an excellent education and the very best start in life for each of our students. We constantly strive to inspire and support every child to learn and develop as mature, wise, fully rounded individuals. Our unswerving commitment is to bring out the best in your child. Our aim is for your child to grow up as an individual who not only has a deep understanding of the world but also has the emotional intelligence and strong moral values that enable him or her to be a happy and positive member of our global society.

Above all our aim is for every student to achieve that particular kind of happiness you get when you strive for and make progress towards your goals. We know that happiness and effective learning go hand in hand. Our ethos of high expectations and putting students at the heart of

everything we do enables our students to fulfil their potential. This makes our students feel that sense of personal fulfilment that leads to true, deep and lasting happiness.

"THE VISION OF THE COLLEGE TO 'REALISE POTENTIAL' IS SHARED BY STAFF, STUDENTS, PARENTS, CARERS AND GOVERNORS." Ofsted

"STUDENTS AT UCTC ARE THE MOST MORAL THEY HAVE MET IN AN INSPECTION IN A VERY LONG TIME." Ofsted

"STUDENTS DEVELOP INTO MATURE AND THOUGHTFUL YOUNG ADULTS." Ofsted

# EXCELLENT TEACHING AND LEARNING

As you walk into our College, you will find that it is a vibrant learning environment and our students are drawn in and engaged by the energy and enthusiasm of our staff and the passion they have for their subject. Our pledge to you is that our students will be inspired by excellent teaching and stimulating learning opportunities. Great teaching only happens when it is pitched at just the right level and our strength lies in knowing every student really well. We also promise to give each student helpful feedback and advice about how to improve. To support them on their learning

“IMPRESSIVE TEACHING.” Ofsted

“STUDENTS ARE ENTHUSIASTIC AND KEEN TO LEARN.” Ofsted

journey, every student has a mentor who coaches and guides him or her to make those improvements. Quality time for individual mentoring takes place on a regular basis. This is an essential part of the College culture which ensures that each student’s individual needs are catered for.

Students learn best through a wide range of teaching and learning methods. All our students are provided with

lively and challenging learning experiences that are innovative, personalised and supported by technology. At UCTC we enable students to flourish and succeed in a calm, purposeful environment. There is a clear, strong work ethos and we challenge every student to do his or her best. We encourage them to understand how they learn, to be inquisitive and creative. Our aim is for them to be independent learners and to love learning.



# CARING FOR EVERY STUDENT

We believe that what makes a great school is its ethos. There are three cornerstones to our ethos: challenge, happiness

the transition from Primary School to UCTC there is a whole team of staff working to ensure the change is really positive.

on our students’ happiness, self-esteem, engagement and well-being. Students at UCTC are encouraged to try the many new experiences on offer – cultural, physical and academic. We believe that there are very important characteristics to develop alongside subject skills and knowledge: determination, perseverance, integrity, compassion, empathy, self-respect and respect for others. Students develop their unique character and personal qualities as they grow up through the College.

“RELATIONSHIPS BETWEEN STAFF AND STUDENTS ARE EXCEPTIONALLY STRONG AND SUPPORTIVE.” Ofsted

“STUDENTS ARE VERY HAPPY.” Ofsted

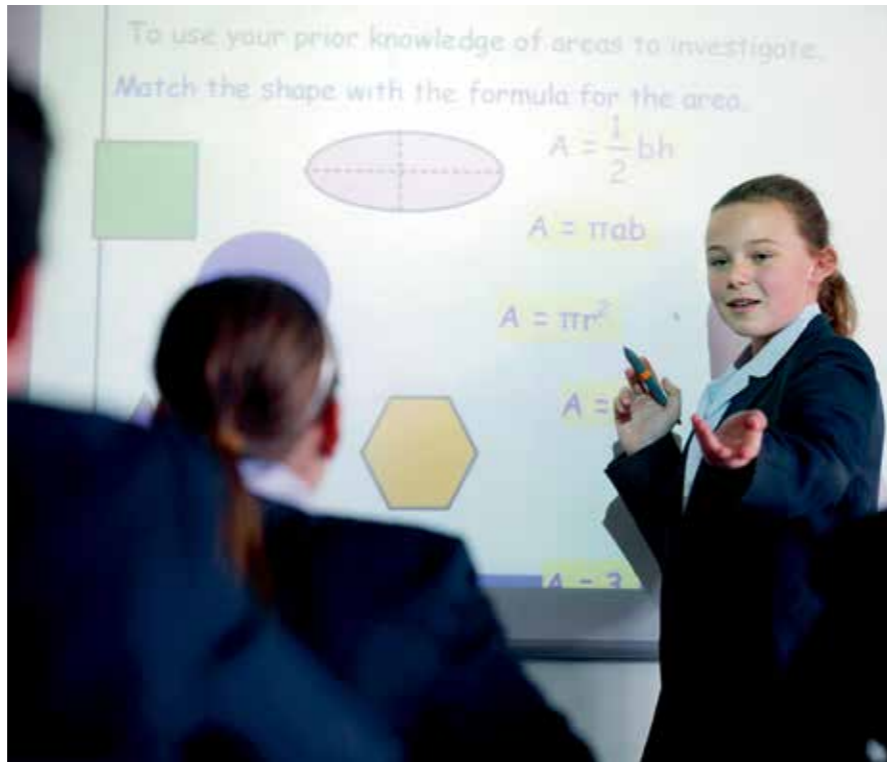
and care. We never lose sight of each individual student. Students are cared for pastorally by a Form Tutor, who keeps an eye on whether students are happy, safe and working well and by meeting every day, your child can discuss any small worries. Each year group also has a Director of Year plus an Assistant Director of Year to support every child. Throughout

Self-confidence and resilience are important foundations for a successful education. By caring and nurturing each student we enable their confidence to grow. This in turn enables them to have the motivation and courage to take on new challenges.

We place a great deal of importance on academic progress but we also focus

Our small classes ensure each student has the attention he or she deserves. Our average class size in Years 7, 8 and 9 is 23. In Years 10 and 11 it is 20, and in the Sixth Form it is 9.





# EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

We are renowned for the wide variety of trips we run, both in the UK and abroad. We also offer many extra-curricular opportunities that develop self-discipline and enrich young people's lives. If you ask our

In football, rugby, hockey, netball, basketball, cricket, dance, athletics, cross-country and racquet games, our boys and girls have had the highest level of success both countywide and nationally.

to play chess, to achieve Arts Awards and the Duke of Edinburgh Awards Scheme and take part in Spiritus, our creative arts group. There are numerous choirs, string groups, woodwind groups, big band and brass ensembles and orchestras. Students take positions of responsibility in our Student Voice group, Ecoschools committee, Student Council and Model United Nations General Assembly. All students are encouraged to participate in as many areas as they wish. We are also very proud that our students volunteer to do service in the community and charity fund raising.

"VERY POSITIVE ATTITUDES SHOWN BY STUDENTS AND STAFF." Ofsted

students, they say that trips and clubs are some of the most memorable aspects of their time here. Students take part in many olympiads, competitions and events. Our partnership with the Leisure Centre, together with the strength of our Physical Education, Dance, Drama and Music departments, means that we have something for everyone.

The team spirit, so important in ensuring our success in competition, has a positive effect on the students' learning and their ability to work co-operatively: these skills are essential for life and work beyond the College. There are many other clubs and activities on offer: opportunities to perform in plays and concerts,

## A CHALLENGING LEARNING EXPERIENCE

"THE COLLEGE IS INNOVATIVE AND HAS A RECORD OF SUCCESS IN RAISING STANDARDS AND ACHIEVEMENT." Ofsted

"BEHAVIOUR IN LESSONS AND AROUND THE SCHOOL IS EXEMPLARY." Ofsted

Our curriculum is at the heart of our provision. Our ambitious curriculum prepares young people for a modern, changing world and includes traditional moral values that have stood the test of time. It is carefully planned and monitored to meet the needs of all students whatever their ability or interest. We are able to offer a wide variety of optional courses from which each student can select his or her bespoke curriculum.

We also track each student's progress closely. Through careful monitoring and structured dialogue involving teachers, students, mentors and parents, every individual is aware of his or her own progress and is set achievable targets for the future. These targets are both end points to aim at, e.g. Grade A in Maths, and very importantly, comments and advice about how to achieve those end points. Those who are trying

hard and doing their best are praised and rewarded. There are comprehensive systems for identifying underachievers and following this up with appropriate action. We promote high standards and have high expectations of both work and behaviour.

The vast majority of our students stay with us in our Sixth Form College. The standards of teaching and the quality of results are impressive. The learning programme at Uckfield is an excellent preparation for further academic study and for life. Many of our students go on to win places at top universities and competitive positions in business and industry.





# CELEBRATING ACHIEVEMENT

We believe everyone has something special to contribute and we take every opportunity to praise, celebrate and reward the many and varied achievements of our students. Learning, Motivation and Character awards, praise letters/postcards, assemblies, exhibitions, concerts and Celebration Evenings are all ways of celebrating success. Such events are occasions of importance and pride for students, parents and staff alike. Uckfield students are successful.

They:

- are creative
- show initiative
- are talented
- have a genuine thirst for knowledge and understanding
- are skilful
- listen and reflect
- are independent learners
- have high ethical standards and act with integrity
- are clear communicators
- think for themselves
- are confident
- are active and responsible citizens
- have a profound understanding of the importance of teamwork
- are critical thinkers
- show perseverance, flexibility and resilience

Crucially, they have the drive and desire to use their many qualities. This 'can do' attitude is part of Uckfield's ethos.

"EVERY CHILD REALLY DOES MATTER AT UCTC." Ofsted



# REALISING POTENTIAL

To enable every student to fulfil their potential, we have a relentless focus on differentiation. We have extensive setting in English, Maths, Science (Biology, Chemistry & Physics), Modern Languages (French, German & Spanish), PE, RS and IT/ Computing so that students are in a class that is best suited to their learning needs. There are up to six sets in each subject, which enables students to learn at the right pace. Students can be in different sets for

“STUDENTS MAKE EXCELLENT PROGRESS.” Ofsted

different subjects, reflecting their individual strengths. They can move set at any time as they progress and are assessed.

The key strategy to support individual progress is teaching and learning in the classroom and we aim to stretch each student in every lesson. As a nationally recognised Leading Edge school for Gifted and Talented, we have strong provision for the Academically

More Able. For those who need more support, our Special Needs provision and One to One tuition help each student who needs it to catch up. All students are offered free, extra tuition at lunchtime, after school or in holidays to help them prepare for and succeed in all their GCSE and A level courses. One of the things that stands out about Uckfield is the way our staff always go the ‘extra mile’ to support our students achieve in their exams.



# A SPECIAL COMMUNITY

Community is the central concept upon which our College values are built. We prepare our students to play a positive, active and leading role in the worldwide community. We are very proud of our college and the vital role we play in providing excellent education to all in the area. Many of our teaching and support staff form part of the local community and in many cases their children attend our college.

We know how key the role of parents is in ensuring student happiness and success. We believe the strong triangle of UCTC staff, you the parents and your child working together

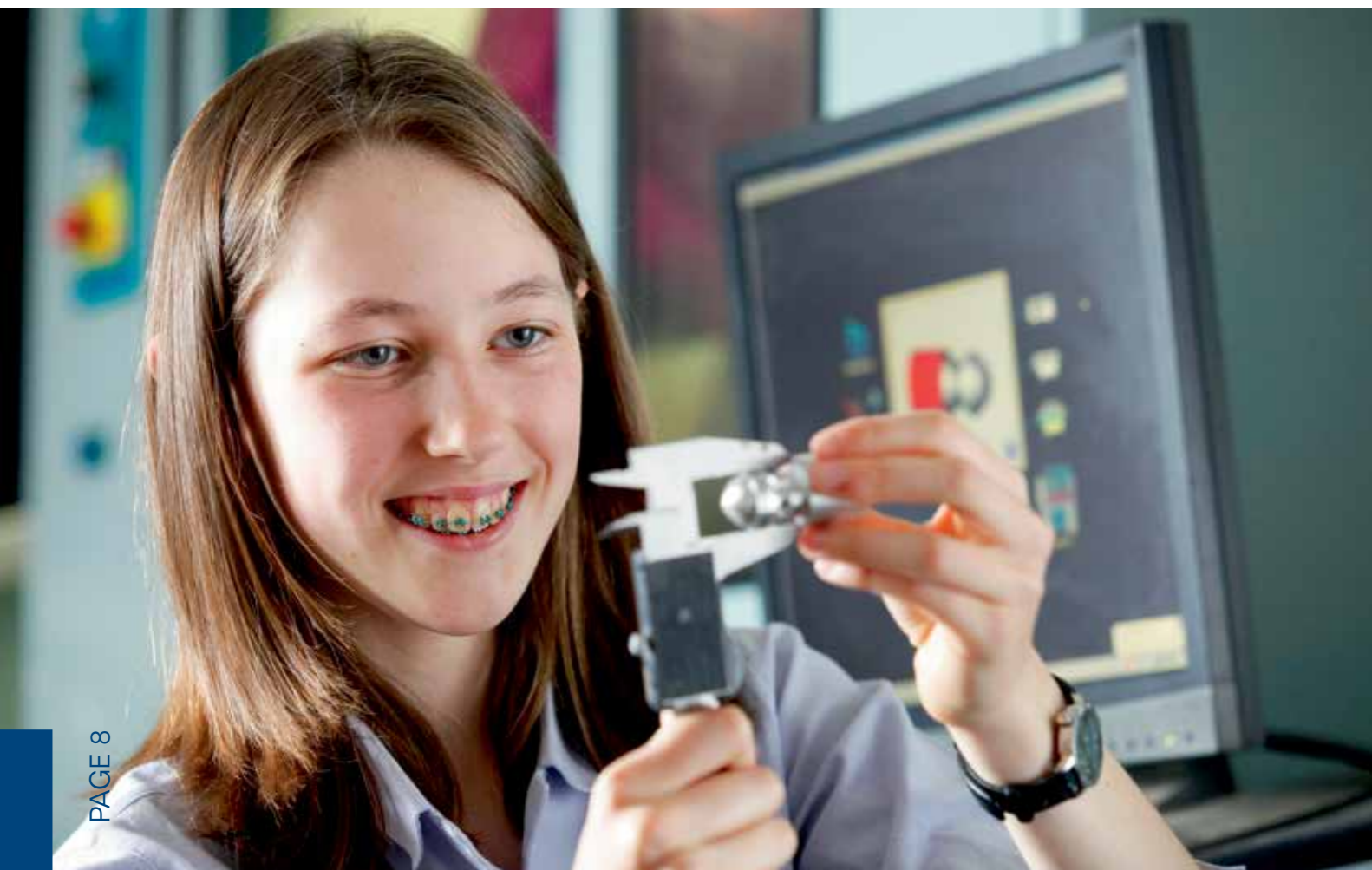
enables each student to flourish. We involve students in discussions about their learning and we not only listen to parents, but actively engage you in evaluating how well we are doing. We have Parent Forums for discussing how we could be even better, drop-in Parent Surgeries and our doors are always open to discussions about your child’s progress.

We enjoy excellent links with partner primary schools, local businesses and schools in other countries. Our curriculum and wide range of trips and visits increases our students’ awareness of our increasingly globalised world.

Our students are ‘world class’. They will be found worldwide in a range of occupations, from operating theatres to university academics, from building bridges to the decision makers that shape the future.

We hope you will visit the College. We know that you will see that our students are at the heart of everything we do. We are privileged to belong to this very special, successful community and hope that you would like to join us. We look forward to welcoming you to our College.

“UCTC IS SPECIAL.” Ofsted



# UCKFIELD COMMUNITY TECHNOLOGY COLLEGE

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