

# UTC Sheffield City Centre Y9 Prospectus 2025/26

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## Be part of something special

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**With specialist equipment, a unique curriculum and extensive employer engagement, UTC Sheffield City Centre offers Year 9 to 11 students a real and exciting alternative to local secondary school.**



We are [Ofsted](#) graded Good and sponsored by Sheffield Hallam University.



**University  
Technical  
Colleges®**

**University Technical Colleges (UTCs)** are government-funded science and technology academies developed with employers and universities to focus on the skills the UK needs for the future.

[Watch our showcase film on YouTube](#)

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## Introduction from Alex Reynolds, Principal

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**Welcome to UTC Sheffield City Centre! We are a purpose-built 13-19 specialist academy in the heart of Sheffield – a city synonymous with creativity, making and innovation.**

Students in Years 9, 10 and 11 with a passion for Science, Technology, Arts, Engineering or Maths can study one of two exciting pathways alongside core GCSE subjects:

- Creative & Digital Media
- Engineering & Advanced Manufacturing

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Our unique combination of technical and academic curriculum is complemented by a personal development programme which brings out the best in each student and enhances their softer employability skills.

Our success is measured in the great results and destinations that our students achieve. I am proud of our track record of enabling our Year 11 students to progress on to positive destinations, including further study and apprenticeships.

I am proud of our track record in enabling 100% of our Year 11 students to progress on to positive destinations, including further studies, apprenticeships or employment. Our Year 13 students stand out from the crowd with their technical specialisms, enabling them to secure sought-after higher and degree apprenticeships as well as competitive university or college places. This year we have seen a record number of our students progress onto degree apprenticeships, many with our employer partners.

We bring education and business together in a way that gives our students the very best preparation for high quality careers, working with the region's top employers, many of them global names, including Bauer Media Group, McLaren, RAF, Rolls-Royce, Siemens, Screen Yorkshire and Warp Films.

Our Higher Education Partner, Sheffield Hallam University, and our employer partners are represented on the governing body and work closely with the UTC and the students to develop their employability skills and provide work placements.

For students who want more than just qualifications, we provide an all-round education focused on future progression. I look forward to meeting you at one of our events and to sharing with you the great opportunities that UTC Sheffield City Centre provides to students in Years 9 to 11.

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## Top reasons to choose UTC Sheffield

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1. Breadth and depth of employer engagement
2. State-of-the-art facilities
3. A pipeline for competitive apprenticeships and study courses
4. Extensive persona development programme focused on professional skills
5. Expert training in specialist classes
6. Professional, mature learning environment



**In 2020, UTC Sheffield City Centre was again graded [Ofsted Good](#) in all areas including:** quality of education, behaviour and attitudes, personal development, leadership and management and sixth form provision.

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## Industry standard facilities

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**Our exceptional facilities for Creative & Digital Media and Engineering give our students a head start, and we continue to invest.**

The latest £1.1m investment in equipment for automation, carbon composite and additive manufacturing has enabled our students to be some of the youngest in the country to learn these high-tech skills sought after by employers.

### **State-of-the-art facilities include:**

- Engineering mini-factories that simulate the real manufacturing environment
- Advanced Apple Mac-based design suites with the latest hardware and software
- Suite of hi-tech studios and media labs for digital, creative and media projects including film, photography, animation and web applications
- Carbon-fibre manufacturing
- High-spec prototyping facilities including laser cutting and 3-D printing
- Computer Numerically Controlled (CNC) machine suite and Computer Aided Design (CAD) suites for producing items designed by the students
- Electronics laboratory
- Multi-use rooftop sports pitch

[Take a virtual tour of our facilities on YouTube](#)



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## Links with employers

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**Our employer partners are the driving force behind UTC Sheffield City Centre.**

**We are partnered with over 70 top employers**, both local and national, including AES Seal, Bauer Media Group, Bravand, Festo, Lavender International, McLaren Automotive, RAF, Rolls-Royce, Screen Yorkshire, Siemens and Warp Films.

Students are exposed to the world of work through a variety of employer engagement activities:

- Trips and visits
- Employer-led projects
- Mock interviews and assessment centres
- Business mentoring days when groups of employers visit the UTC
- Masterclasses and workshops
- Briefings on apprenticeship opportunities
- Work placements

Employer partners work alongside teachers to set students **real life projects**. Technical projects are designed to deepen and enrich learning from across the curriculum whilst building crucial professional skills and characteristics.



**“McLaren Automotive is delighted to back the Sheffield UTC’s focus on encouraging development of regional skills and talent in composite and lightweight materials. We want to do our bit to support the region to help continue to build its regional talent and capabilities in this increasingly important area.”**

Wes Jacklin, Plant Director for the McLaren Composites Technology Centre

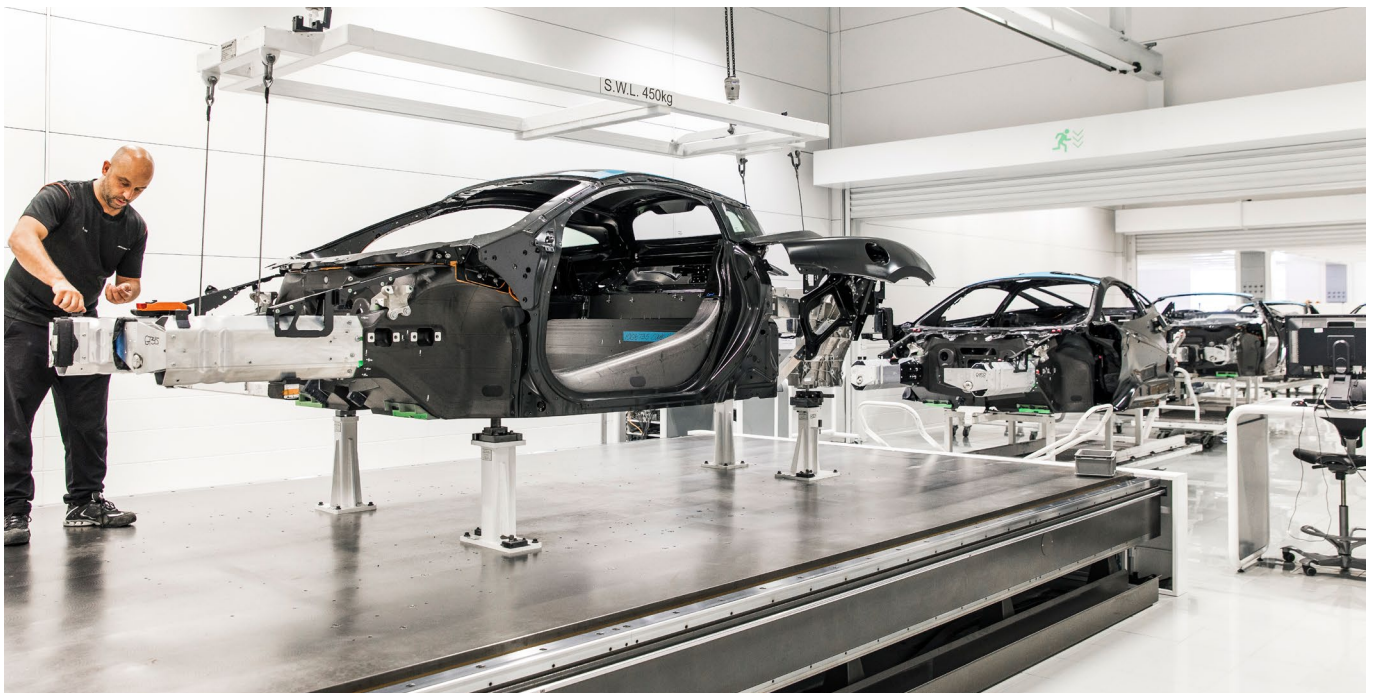


Photo courtesy of McLaren Automotive

**“The UTC will offer you the education and experience that will make you super-employable. You will get the opportunity to meet all kinds of employers, something that traditional schools wouldn’t offer you, and learn the skills that employers want”**

Dan Fleetcroft, Director PES Engineered Solutions and Chair of Governors



## Our higher education partner

We are extremely proud to work with our key sponsor, Sheffield Hallam University (SHU).

**Sheffield  
Hallam  
University**

The UTC enjoys close support from the University, including representation on the UTC's governing body. We benefit from the technical knowledge of the academic experts at SHU, who have helped to design the curriculum. UTC students also have access to the facilities at the University. Importantly, the University is able to support our students with insights into higher education and how to access high quality higher education provision.

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## Destinations, destinations, destinations

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**The culture of the UTC is all about destinations – we focus on where students are going, not just on grades.**

Our Year 13 students go on to positive destinations including university, higher and degree apprenticeships or employment.

Since the UTC opened in 2013, the number of leavers entering high status apprenticeships has surpassed the national average.





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## University destinations:

- 3D Animation at University of South Wales
- Aerospace at University of Leicester
- Biomedical Engineering at University of Hull
- Biotechnology at University of Nottingham
- Chemical Engineering at University of Sheffield
- Chemistry at University of Lincoln
- Civil Engineering at Leeds Beckett University
- Electronic and Electrical Engineering at Sheffield Hallam University
- Electronic Music Production at Leeds Conservatoire
- Engineering at University of Cambridge
- Filmmaking at UWE Bristol
- Forensic Psychology at Liverpool John Moores University
- Games Art at Sheffield Hallam University
- Graphic Design at Leeds Arts University
- Mathematics at University of Liverpool
- Mechanical Engineering at De Montfort University
- Media, Communication and Cultural Studies at Newcastle University
- Physics at Durham University
- Product Design at Bangor University
- Sport Engineering at Nottingham Trent University

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## **Advanced, higher and degree apprenticeships with:**

- Amazon
- AMRC
- Army
- Beatsons Fans and Motors
- Boeing
- British Aerospace
- Brydon Ropes
- CTL Seal
- Fernite Sheffield
- Hydra Creative
- Inspec Solutions
- Jaguar LandRover
- JCB
- Lavender International
- Lidster Tools
- McLaren Automotive
- MOD
- The National College for Advanced Transport & Infrastructure (NCATI)
- Orchid
- Rolls-Royce
- Santander
- SDA Sheffield
- Smurfit Kappa
- William Cook

## Student experience



**Students mention that the atmosphere at the UTC is purposeful and focused, but also friendly and vibrant. Students come to us because they want to learn and relish the opportunity to concentrate on their studies, alongside others with similar interests – whilst enjoying an extensive programme of personal and social development.**

Through our enrichment programme, all students have the chance to develop themselves both personally and professionally, as well as pursue their interests.

Each year we review the programme to ensure that it offers a selection of options our current student base will enjoy as well as gain from.

Sample activities include:

- Duke of Edinburgh Award
- Girls Football
- Boys Football
- Animation
- Art
- British Film Institute Academy
- Film Club
- Green Power racing car challenge
- Photography
- Physics
- Pneumatics
- Enrichment in core subjects like Maths and Engineering



[Watch our student experience film on YouTube](#)



## Transport links

**Our award-winning £10m building is located in the heart of the Creative and Digital Industries sector in Sheffield, next door to BBC Radio Sheffield and close to the main hub of our higher education partner Sheffield Hallam University.**



The main railway station is just a few hundred yards away, together with the main bus station, so students travel in to the UTC from right across the region including Barnsley, Bassetlaw, Doncaster and Rotherham.

### **Rotherham central station**

- 19 minutes by train\*
- 17 minute by car

### **Barnsley Interchange**

- 29 minutes by train\*
- 30 minutes by car

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## **Doncaster Station**

- 40 minutes by train\*
- 34 minutes by car

## **Meadowhall Interchange**

- 7 minutes by train\*
- 18 minutes by car
- 17 minutes by tram\*\*

## **Chesterfield station**

- 18 minutes by train\*
- 27 minutes by car

## **Sheffield Interchange**

- 10 minutes walk

## **Sheffield Station**

- 5 minutes walk

\* travel times via train are to Sheffield Station only

\*\* travel time via Supertram is to Ponds Forge only

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## Core Curriculum

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**Studying in Year 9, 10 and 11 at UTC Sheffield City Centre is different from a traditional secondary school. Learning is related to the world of work so that students can better understand the relevance of what they are learning.**

In Year 9, our students complete Key Stage 3 whilst also focusing on early skills development within specialisms. At Key Stage 4 our students study a combination of core GCSE subjects alongside optional GCSE and technical qualifications for specialist pathways in Creative & Digital Media and Engineering. These complimentary pathways equip students for further study, apprenticeships and employment in the areas they are interested in.

The core curriculum is supported by a wide-ranging personal development programme. The timetable features allocated lesson time for Careers Information, Advice and Guidance, Citizenship and RSHE (Relationships, Sex and Health Education) under the banner of our Global Cultural Learning Curriculum.

In addition, students have weekly time for Sports and Physical Education, alongside time for independent study and a choice of interesting and varied enrichment activities.

Overall, this balanced curriculum offer provides a well-rounded education designed to build students' skills, knowledge, confidence and judgement, with extensive opportunities to work with employers and build professional skills.

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## **8 or more GCSEs and equivalent Level 2 technical qualifications**

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**Discuss options with us to tailor the best combination for each individual student**

### **Core Curriculum**

- GCSE Maths, English Language, English Literature
- **plus** GCSE Science (Combined) equivalent to 2 GCSEs
- **or** GCSE Separate Sciences (Triple Award) equivalent to 3 GCSEs

### **Specialisms**

Choose from 1 of 2 exciting pathways to add to your core subjects

#### **Creative & Digital Media**

- BTEC Tech Award in Creative Media Production
- OCR GCSE in Media Studies

#### **Engineering**

- OCR Cambridge Nationals in Engineering Manufacture and Design

## Choose from optional GCSEs/Cambridge Nationals to complement your specialism:

- Art & Design
- Photography
- Product Design
- Engineering Programmable Systems

## Plus...

- All Year 9 students study the **BTEC Award in Digital Information Technology** covering useful IT skills sought after by employers and relevant to both Engineering and Creative Digital Media industries.
- **Enrichment programme** – a wide-ranging personal development programme with activities outside the classroom to help students develop more broadly.
- **Employability programme** – an outstanding careers and professional development programme offering talks, visits, masterclasses, mentoring, work placements, project-based learning and future employment opportunities.

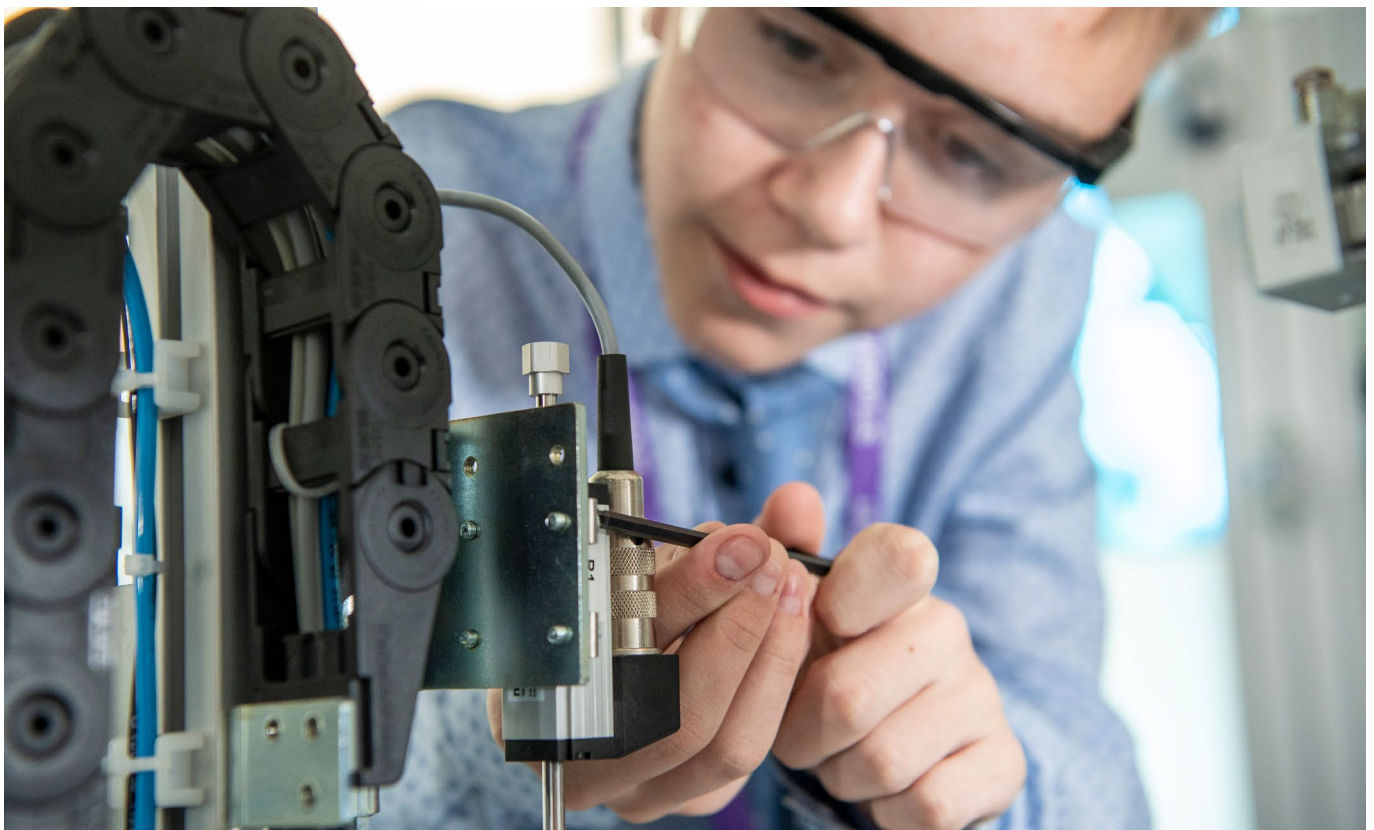




## Specialising in Engineering

**If you like to get to the bottom of how things work, solve problems, invent and make, Engineering is for you. You could be helping to design and construct visionary buildings, developing the latest green technology to save the planet, or inventing new medical devices to improve healthcare.**

Engineering is a combination of science and maths used to solve real-life problems. There are lots of different types of engineers who work in all sorts of places - offices, laboratories, hospitals, hi-tech manufacturing, to name a few.



The Engineering specialism at UTC Sheffield will provide you with the knowledge and skills to work across this diverse and growing sector. You will learn in state-of-the-art facilities including mini-factories that simulate the real manufacturing environment, high-spec prototyping workshops and sophisticated machine suites – working on challenges set by employers that will stretch you and build your industry skills.

You will study a wide range of technical topics including engineering design, Computer Aided Design (CAD), manual machining, CNC and quality control. All designed to increase your experience and understanding of the different fields of employment in engineering and help you find the right career.

Your studies will include Level 2 OCR Cambridge Nationals in Engineering Manufacture, Engineering Design with an option for Systems Control in Engineering alongside GCSEs.

Find out more: [www.utcsheffield.org.uk/city/engineering](http://www.utcsheffield.org.uk/city/engineering)

[Watch our Engineering and Advanced Manufacturing showcase film](#)

## Employer-led projects

You might be working with graduates and apprentices from Rolls-Royce on a specially commissioned project to design an aeroplane refuelling pump, or investigating how to develop an Unmanned Aerial Vehicle (UAV) with PES Performance. Or perhaps you will become a WorldSkills competitor in mechatronics with Siemens and Festo when you progress into year 12, or learn how materials are tested with Lavender International.





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## WorldSkills UK

**WorldSkills UK is a national competition that equips students with the world-class skills needed for the future economy.**

The competition uses real work projects to test competitors and build attributes valued by employers including teamwork, organisation, time management and working under pressure.

Teams from UTC Sheffield have competed over several years against colleges, employers and universities from across the UK, winning a haul of medals and placing them among the top performers for engineering skills. Some have been invited to join the training and development programme for international competitions with the chance to represent the UK at international skills competitions: EuroSkills and WorldSkills.

## Jonah

**Former WorldSkills competitor and engineer Jonah is on his way to a career in mechanical engineering with a degree apprenticeship after securing top results at UTC.**

Jonah is now working at BAE Systems in Barrow-in-Furness on a five-year Mechanical Engineering Degree Apprenticeship.

Whilst in Year 12 Jonah competed in the automation competition at WorldSkills as part of enrichment at UTC: "I found it really interesting and enjoyed the small scale experience I was able to get at UTC by using equipment like the mini factory Festo room."

Talking about his overall UTC experience, Jonah said: "I joined the UTC in Year 9 because my old school wasn't great, and I knew I wanted to study engineering. There's a wide range of opportunities."

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## Nathan Nicholson

### **Engineer Nathan is continuing his studies at UTC after his GCSE results.**

Nathan completed his GCSEs last year achieving Distinction\* in both Level 2 Engineering Manufacture and Engineering Design, Grade 9s in German and Physics, Grade 8s in Geography, Biology and Chemistry, Grade 7s in English Language, English Literature and Maths

On opening his results, he said: “Upon opening my results there was mostly silence followed by “ooo” and “ahhh”. I couldn’t be much happier and I’m proud of what I have achieved with some results to be exactly what I’d hoped for and other a nice surprise.”

He first joined the UTC in Year 9 after finding it was one of the only schools in the city to offer engineering from Year 9, he said: “It’s been great. Everyone is helpful and there’s a lot of cool engineering equipment. I think I made the right decision to come here, in terms of preparing you for a career in engineering I think it’s got the best to offer!”

During enrichment time Nathan took part in the Greenpower Racing competition, where students build a race car that is then raced regionally and nationally against other schools and universities. About his experience as part of the team, he said: “I did Greenpower in Year 10, where we built an electric go kart. I went out and raced with the team twice and although we didn’t do as well as we’d hoped, it was fun!”

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## Connie Mallinder

**Budding Engineer Connie completed her GCSEs last year and is now studying in the sixth form.**

Connie, who joined the UTC in Year 9, has just achieved Distinctions in her Engineering Manufacture and Engineering Design technical. She also sat core GCSEs and a GCSE in Product Design.

On opening her results, she said: “I am really pleased with my results today! I have doubted myself a lot but I have worked so hard to get the grades I have. There were lots of tears and excitement and my parents and I are on cloud nine.”

Talking about her UTC experience, she said: “The staff are really supportive, and it’s been a very welcoming environment.”

Continuing to talk about employers she’s worked with: “I had an interview with McLaren as part of an assessment centre day and I did a week of work experience at the AMRC.”

## These are some of the employers you will be working with:

- [Siemens](#)
- [Festo](#)
- [Rolls-Royce](#)
- [AMRC - The University of Sheffield Advanced Manufacturing Research Centre](#)
- [Royal Air Force](#)
- [ARUP](#)
- [Lavender International](#)
- [Network Rail](#)
- [Aesseal](#)
- [McLaren](#)

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## **Meet our non-destructive testing partner, Lavender International**

**“What really strikes me is that the UTC students are so enthusiastic – it’s clear they want to be there and to learn. The students on Engineering courses at the UTC really want to go into engineering and they’re motivated. That’s what our industry needs.”**

Lavender International has offices in Houston, Texas in the USA, as well as in the UK, and supports programmes all over the world in countries like Greece, South Africa and Canada.

Lavender staff regularly visit the UTC to demonstrate non-destructive testing to students. This includes sessions on Penetrant Testing, Magnetic Testing and Ultrasonic Testing, which are delivered as part of an assignment or project that UTC students are working on. Lavender have also donated equipment to the UTC, including three hardness testing machines.

“It’s always been a principle of Lavender to pass on knowledge to the next generation. Like the rest of the engineering industry, we have an ageing workforce and we need young talent. We want to encourage young people to consider a career in non-destructive testing, as our industry has so much to offer, such as the opportunity to travel all over the world!”

**Amy Schofield**, Business Development Manager

## Specialising in Creative & Digital Media

**Are you interested in designing and digital making, filming and recording, writing and using your imagination? The Creative and Digital Industries are very diverse – ranging from advertising to animation and from fashion to film.**



Overall in the UK over 3 million people are employed in creative industries or in creative roles in other industries – so there's no shortage of opportunity. In fact, this sector is one of the fastest growing employment sectors in the UK.

The Creative & Digital Media pathway at the UTC will give you a wide range of digital skills and opportunities, so you can pursue your particular interests.

As a Creative & Digital student, you will learn in hi-tech studios and media labs catering for film, photography, graphic design, animation and web application.

Your studies will include Pearson BTEC Level 2 Tech Award in Creative Media Production and OCR GCSE Media studies (9-1), alongside other GCSEs.

Find out more: [www.utcsheffield.org.uk/city/creative](http://www.utcsheffield.org.uk/city/creative)

[Watch our Creative and Digital Media showcase film](#)

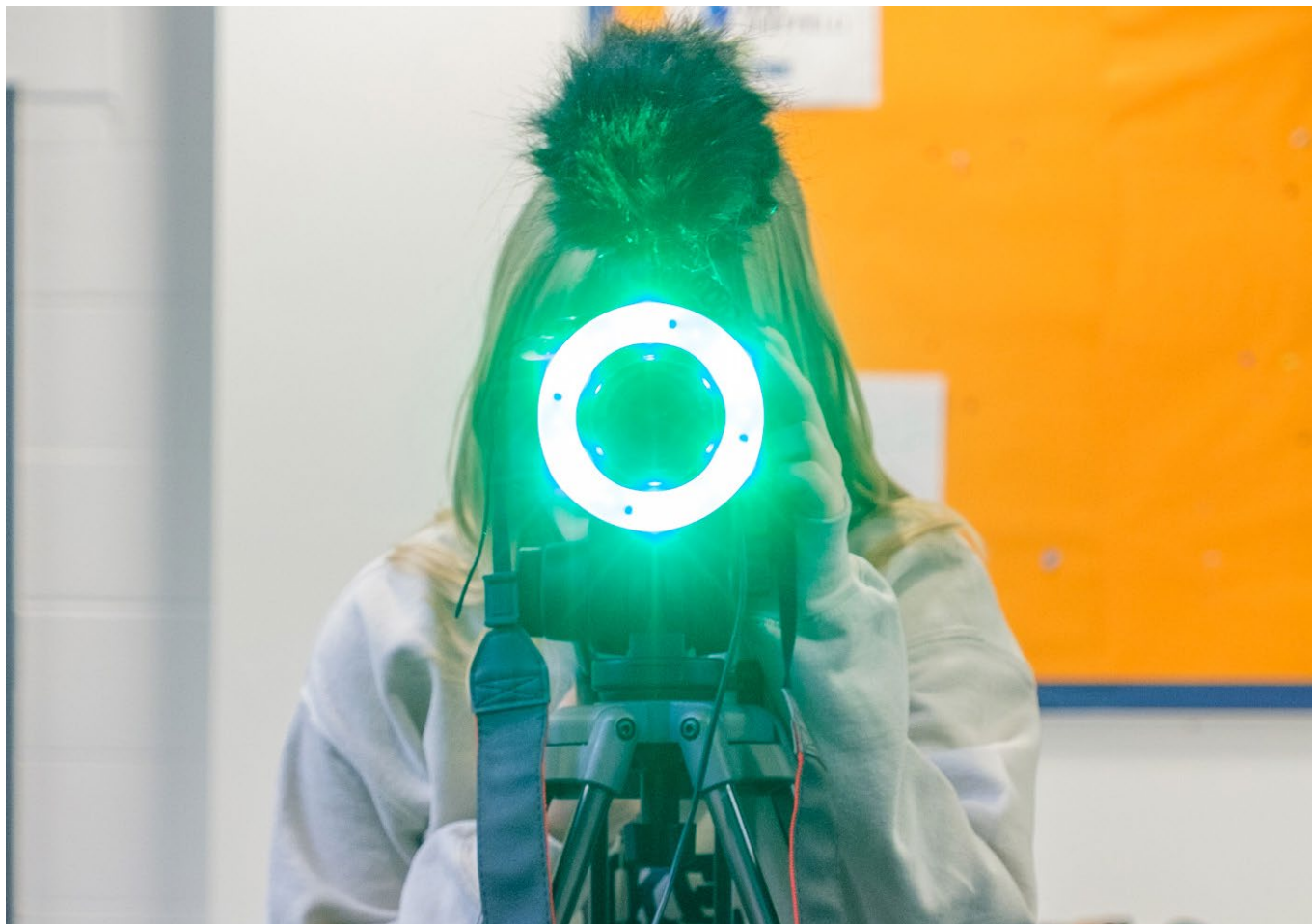
## **Employer-led projects**

You might be working on a brief from Screen Yorkshire, or attend a master class with representatives from Hallam FM on audience demographics and radio advertising.

[Meet Maisie, Creative & Digital Media student](#)

[Meet Matthew, Creative & Digital Media student](#)





## These are some of the employers you will be working with:

- [Bauer Media Group](#)
- [Warp Films](#)
- [Hive IT](#)
- [Bravand](#)
- [Can Studios](#)
- [Sheffield Live!](#)
- [HR Media](#)
- [Screen Yorkshire](#)
- [Very Creative](#)
- [South Yorkshire, Bassetlaw & North Yorkshire Cancer Alliance](#)



## Pathways

**After GCSEs, our Year 11 students have the opportunity to continue their studies at the UTC, following specialist pathways in Creative & Digital Media and Engineering.**

In Year 11, our dedicated careers advisers work with students to ensure they make the most appropriate choices for their post-16 pathway. The UTC places great emphasis on professional Careers Education, Information, Advice and Guidance (CEIAG) for all students. This is combined with work experience in both Year 10 and Year 11, extensive opportunities to meet with employers and work on industry projects, to assist students in making informed decisions. As a result, we have a track record of 100% of students progressing successfully onto further studies, apprenticeships and employment.

### UTC Sheffield City Centre KS4

Years 9 10 & 11 - GCSEs & Technical Qualifications, Core subjects + specialist pathways

#### Leading to

<p><b>School or College Sixth Forms</b> Years 12 &amp; 13</p>	<p><b>UTC Sheffield City Centre KS5</b> Years 12 &amp; 13 A Levels &amp; Technical Qualifications in STEM specialist pathways</p>	<p><b>Advanced Apprenticeships</b> Entry with Level 2 Qualifications</p>
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#### Leading to

<p><b>University</b> Foundation degree Undergraduate degree Masters degree</p>	<p><b>College</b> Higher National Certificates &amp; Diplomas Foundation Degrees</p>	<p><b>Higher &amp; Degree Apprenticeships</b> Entry with A Levels and/or Technical Qualifications</p>
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#### Leading to

**Well paid job** in the creative and digital industries, engineering, manufacturing or other creative or tech-based sector



## Apply today

Interested in applying? [Find out more at one of our open events and taster sessions](#)

We offer a range of taster events and talks for both parents/carers and potential students. Please come along and meet with our Principal, Alex Reynolds, and find out more about UTC Sheffield.

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## **UTC Sheffield City Centre is part of The Sheffield UTC Academy Trust**

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The Trust has a clear vision to prepare our students for high quality careers in major growth areas of the UK and global economies – Engineering & Advanced Manufacturing, Creative & Digital Industries, Computing, Health Sciences and the related area of Sport Science. We provide a rounded education to develop the professional, personal and technical skills that employers want.

All of our students achieve a set of qualifications endorsed by both our university and employer partners, enabling them to progress to top universities as well as high quality apprenticeships.