



## Head of School Weekly Update

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Welcome to the end of week update, there is quite a lot of information in here this week.

As always, I hope that you find this useful!

### *Thames Valley Police Safety Partnership*

I would like to inform you that on Wednesday morning we hosted officers from Thames Valley Police and their safety arches as part of our joint safety partnership.

We know that the local context in Reading means we need to provide more in-depth education on knife crime and violent crime to our young people, and this visit today enables us to reassure our community that we are actively working with Thames Valley Police to provide this support and education.

As part of the event - all students in key stage 4 participated in a search of their belongings by UTC staff and then walked through the safety arches with the TVP officers' supervision.

I am really pleased to report no restricted items were found in the searches carried out today and I would like to thank all the students in Year 10 and 11 for their cooperation and professional behaviours during this event.

Over the coming weeks we will be replicating this event for our key stage 5 students and also engaging with other safety practices such as drugs safety dog visits.

I will keep you updated on these events as they happen and would like to thank you for your cooperation in supporting UTC Reading in being a safe place to study and work.

### *Celebration of professional qualifications*

A huge number of students now hold professional qualifications across a range of areas. We have seen some excellent news in the last week with students scoring 978 out of 1000 in a Microsoft Powerpoint Professional Qualification.

I would like to see lots more students achieving these qualifications over the coming weeks!

### *Pre-Public Examinations for Year 11 and 13 Students*

Our PPE exams begin on Monday for Year 11 and 13 students. For all the details including timetables and instructions for when students need to be in school and when they may be able to leave early, please see the separate year group specific communications from Richa Pareek. Year 13 students need to bring their own equipment to exams.

### *Berkshire Careers Opportunities*

In partnership with our local Berkshire Careers Hub, we are very pleased to share their current opportunities website so that you can keep up to date with opportunities up and coming in the area. This includes opportunities such as work experiences, careers insight talks, apprenticeship opportunities, as well as information about jobs in the local area:

<https://www.berkshireopportunities.co.uk/employers-and-educators/opportunities-for-you-to-share/>

### ***CCF volunteer role opportunity***

UTC Reading Combined Cadet Force (CCF) is looking for adult volunteers to join our team. Whether you want to volunteer personally, or you know someone who might be interested, please email Lewis Hart ([lewis.hart@utcreading.org.uk](mailto:lewis.hart@utcreading.org.uk)). We'd be particularly keen for anyone with previous service in either the RAF or Army to join us, but this is certainly not a requirement.

<https://combinedcadetforce.org.uk/get-involved/volunteering> has an excellent video explaining what's involved.

What you can gain:

- Extremely rewarding role seeing young people grow and develop skills in leadership, teamwork and resilience
- Gain nationally recognised qualifications, particularly in adventurous training
- "Volunteer allowance" of around £60-80 per day when on weekend/residential courses and camps
- Build your own skills in leadership and communication

What we want from you:

- Age 20-65, and resident in UK for at least 3 years
- Available most Thursday afternoons in term time between 3 and 5pm
- Available for 2-3 weekends throughout the year, and a week-long camp in July
- Enthusiastic and willing to give new things a go!

### ***Parent feedback***

Over the next few weeks, our executive principal Wayne Edwards will be making some telephone calls home to randomly selected parents to gather some feedback about the parent experience at UTC Reading.

Please do not be alarmed by these calls, this is simply a new way for us to gather feedback from our families on how we can continue to develop UTC Reading even further.

As part of our additional parent feedback, we would like to ask you some additional questions around specific themes.

Please follow the link to the Microsoft form to complete the questions in our current feedback theme about the curriculum.

<https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=JcuAJKXI-UOYkvgEr2KwoL-4uSneZKRNgVo3WYkxnY9UMUE0V0pLRVIGRjA2RU0xTEJHV0NQS1k0SS4u>

## ***Key Contact Details***

### ***Senior Leadership Team***

Executive Principal – Wayne Edwards

Head of School – Jennie Thomson ([jennie.thomson@utcreading.org.uk](mailto:jennie.thomson@utcreading.org.uk))

Assistant Principal – Stephanie Mitchell ([Stephanie.mitchell@utcreading.org.uk](mailto:Stephanie.mitchell@utcreading.org.uk))

Assistant Principal – Lee Reynolds ([lee.reynolds@utcreading.org.uk](mailto:lee.reynolds@utcreading.org.uk))

Assistant Principal – Richa Pareek ([richa.pareek@utcreading.org.uk](mailto:richa.pareek@utcreading.org.uk))

Executive Director of SEND – Georgina Craven ([Georgina.craven@utcreading.org.uk](mailto:Georgina.craven@utcreading.org.uk))

### ***Safeguarding Team***

Designated Safeguarding Lead – Jennie Thomson

Deputy Designated Safeguarding Leads – Jackie Wynter, Wayne Edwards, Steph Mitchell, Charlotte Tennant, Julie Hooper

### ***SEN Team***

Trust Lead for SEN and Safeguarding – Linda Stevens

Executive Director of SEND – Georgina Craven

SEN Administrator – Siua Abnett

### ***Curriculum Leadership Team***

Director of Maths – Lewis Hart

Director of English – Thomas Trayers

Director of Science – Anderson Ramdeen

Director of Design, Engineering and Technology – Jamie Chandler

Director of Computing – Ian Scott

Director of Teaching and Learning – Carly Gale

Wishing our whole community a happy and safe weekend.

Kind regards

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "J.A. Thomson".

Jennie Thomson

**Head of School**