



A Series of Seminars for Undergraduates on the Opportunities available in University Technical Colleges, UTCsⁱ

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Personal Professional Development

What is Personal Professional Development (PPD)

The personal professional development plan (PDP) is a formal means by which an individual (normally working with a lecturer, mentor or supervisor) sets out the goals, strategies and outcomes of learning and training. The outcome of this plan is career enhancement through personal professional development activity all of which can be added to CVs and in the case of some universities will count towards employability certificates and awards.

It is generally accepted that career management is based on:

- understanding yourself and what you want from your life
- understanding careers e.g. types of work, recruitment methods, career structures and what support, training and development is available
- understanding the wider economic, political, social, and technological climate

The Royal Academy of Engineering will provide guidance on how you can get involved in the work of a UTC.

The basic aim is to create opportunities for your own Personal Professional Development enhancing your CVs accelerating your employability chances.

What are the opportunities available for you in UTCs?

Enhance your e portfolio/CV/Blog

Mentoring students, on-line, phone or face to face

Supporting/devising authentic curriculum developments

Teaching

Instructing

Demonstrating

Curriculum project leadership and management

You will also be invited to attend events at your local UTC to talk about university life.

You will be invited to provide inputs to key topics at your local UTC.

You will be invited to suggest novel ways in which STEM lessons could be delivered. A prize will be awarded for the best idea.

You may be invited to undertake an internship at a UTC to gain an insight into STEM delivery in schools.

Once on the UTC database you will be provided with regular information about opportunities for voluntary work, internships and permanent jobs that are available in this UTC and across the whole network.

Anyone who will be working with young people will have to have a CRB check carried out prior to involvement.

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1. Background – What is a UTC?

Quoting from www.utcolleges.org:

- A college for students aged 14 to 19 which specialises in technical studies and is sponsored by a university (or FE College). It offers full time courses which combine practical and academic studies.
- University Technical Colleges are a new concept in education. They offer 14-19 year olds the opportunity to take a highly regarded, full time, technically-oriented course of study. They are equipped to the highest standard, sponsored by a university and offer clear progression routes into higher education or further learning in work. "We want to forge a partnership between vocational education and universities, FE colleges and employers." Lord Baker
- What qualifications will they offer? - This will vary from College to College but all offer a combination of GCSEs in English, maths and science combined with practical and technical qualifications which are recognised by employers and universities.
- University Technical Colleges specialise in subjects that require technical and modern equipment, for example, engineering, product design, health sciences, construction, and land and environmental services. However they all teach business skills and the use of ICT. The chosen specialism reflects the university's areas of excellence and the needs of local employers.