

Social Responsibility

Engaging with Health Science Specialist UTCs

What is a University Technical College (UTC)?

There are 47 UTCs spread across England ([Find a UTC | University Technical Colleges \(utcolleges.org\)](http://utcolleges.org)). They are state-funded schools, set up by businesses and a university to fill local skills gaps. UTCs prepare their students for working life and are successful in doing so because they have extensive engagement with local and national employers. On average 20% of our students go into Apprenticeships – perhaps you have an opportunity or plan to have one in the future?

14 of the UTCs have a health science specialism, which means that their students focus on science and/or health care much of their time. They are part of a health education, service delivery, innovation and industry eco-system working with local universities and business including their local NHS Trust, HEE, AHSNs, Canon Medical, Promake, ORCHA, Axion Consulting, Iksuda Therapeutics, CISCO and many others.

Why should you engage with a UTC?

- To be part of this unique ecosystem supporting the development of a future workforce
- Opportunities to have access to a range of industries which could be beneficial for your innovation
- To generate new ideas and support young people developing skills – for example, through hackathons
- Access to young people user research and product testing group

What would motivate you to work with us?

We want to know what would motivate you to become part of this and work with our UTCs? Contact us using the link or email below and perhaps we can work together to overcome any barriers you have to working with us.

- Resources- time, finance etc.
- Safeguarding issues

What could you do?

These are some examples of ways that you could get involved in your local UTC or a group of UTCs. All of these can be one off events, ongoing or repeated annually.

- A guest lecture about a particular topic or about your business and how you went about setting it up.
- A competition or challenge that you are facing developed for presentation in partnership with a UTC or BDET.
- Design and support the delivery of curriculum-based project with the help of BDET and/or a UTC.
- Meet a focus group – discuss your product/service and your business and get some feedback.
- A work experience placement of 5 to 45 days. Longer placements could be one day a week or longer blocks and should be negotiated with the UTC.
- Mock interviews – help young people to practice their interview skills.
- Take a teacher on a day placement – help teachers to understand your industry and the benefits of setting up and running a company like yours by allowing them to spend a day with you.

Engagement Type, Time Duration, Reach Impact

- Guest Lecture 45-60 mins, One off 30-100 students, Medium
- Curriculum Project 8 hours Over 12 weeks, 1 Year group, Very High
- Competition/challenge, 4 hours Between 6 weeks or 1-3 days, 1 to 10 UTCs, Medium
- Work experience 5-45 days, over 3-12 months. 1 or 2 17/18 yr olds, very high
- Focus group 2 hours, One off 6-10 students, Medium
- Mock interviews 2 hours, One off 8 students, Medium
- Teacher placement 1 day, One off 100s of students, Medium

Interested?

Click here: [CONTACT US - Baker Dearing](#) or email: director@utcolleges.org