

18 December 2023

Dear Parents/Carers,

As we approach the end of the school term, I would like to thank you for your support throughout this academic year. It has been a successful term, and we have been delighted to be recognised by the Golden Apples who awarded us the Best Industry Engagement award for our partnership with MissionCX, delivering high-value work experience to our students. Students have also participated in various community and employer initiatives, including: Bright Stars with Beckstone Primary through the Centre for Leadership Performance, Cumbria Youth Alliance's Call to Social Action project, The Enterprise Group Community Initiative and delivering the final presentations for many employer projects. We have also facilitated some excellent residential opportunities including the Year 10 Kingswood Residential and Year 11 Belgium trip, with our New York trip taking place in January 2024.

**January Exams-** There are both real and mock exams in January for Year 11, 12 and 13 students, the exam timetable can be found on our [website](#). Students must use the Christmas break to prepare for these exams as the results will be used to inform their predicted grades for future interviews for sixth form, apprenticeships and university.

**Parking, drop-offs and the Energus site-** Parents/carers are urged to be mindful when parking to drop-off or collect students from school, especially during the darker months where pedestrians are harder to see. Where possible please do not block junctions by pulling up at the mouth of junctions, including the UTC car park and our neighbouring car parks. Students should remain on the UTC site at all times using the path directly adjacent to our building to enter and exit school. Students should not use the Energus site on their way to or from school and should not use the Energus car park, grounds or facilities at any time.

**Free school meals-** If you/your child is in receipt of free school meals you will receive vouchers to cover the cost of meals during the school holidays funded by the Local Authority. Vouchers will be sent via email on Wednesday 20 December.

**First Day of Term-** The last day of lessons for students is Tuesday 19 December with a 1pm finish, and the UTC opens after the Christmas break on Wednesday 3 January 2024. I would like to take this opportunity to remind you that students should return to school in full uniform, including lanyard and name badge, and should have a full set of school equipment and PPE. Students will also be moving to a 10-minute form period from 8:30- 8:40 each morning. This will ensure that all students are prepared for the day and that form tutors can share important messages with students at the start of the day. The additional 5-minutes will be taken from the current 'transition' between period 4 and 5. There will be no change to the overall timings of the school day.

I hope you have an enjoyable and relaxing Christmas break and I look forward to working with you all in 2024.

Yours sincerely



Kerryann Wilson  
Head of School