GREATER PETERBOROUGH UTC

Sixth Form Prospectus 2026 – 2027

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MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Thank you for considering GPUTC for your Sixth Form education.

We are proud to be building a dynamic and growing Sixth Form that continues to go from strength to strength. Our curriculum is firmly rooted in STEM education and reflects our vision as a University Technical College (UTC).

Many of our students choose to stay with us beyond Year 11, and we are also seeing an increasing number of students from other schools join us to pursue our specialised STEM pathway. This growth reflects the strength of our offer and the positive outcomes our students are achieving.

This prospectus outlines the diverse range of courses we provide, including T-Levels, Science, Maths, Business, Art, and more. We are continually working with our valued Industry Partners to enhance our students' experience, offering them opportunities for apprenticeships and real-world workplace exposure.

We are also excited to share that we have recently secured funding for the Turin Scheme, which will enable some of our students to study abroad—an incredible opportunity that will further enrich their education and personal development.

The release of this prospectus and our upcoming Sixth Form Open Evening mark the beginning of the formal transition process from Year 11 to Sixth Form. After reviewing our prospectus and/or visiting us in person, you will be invited to complete an application form, which begins your journey with us. Each application is carefully reviewed by our Sixth Form Team, who will then be in touch to guide you through the next steps.

QUICK FACTS

STEM-Focused Education

GPUTC is Peterborough's only STEM-specialist secondary school, dedicated to Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics for students aged 11–18.

Industry-Led Learning

The curriculum is shaped and supported by local and national employers, giving students hands-on experience through real employer projects, site visits, and mentoring.

Pathways to the Future

Students can study T Levels, A Levels and Technical Qualifications designed to lead directly into apprenticeships, university or skilled employment.

Strong Employer Partnerships

GPUTC works with leading companies including Caterpillar Perkins, Baker Perkins, Howden Chart Industries, Omega Sinto, and Anglian Water to help students gain valuable industry insight.

Workforce of Tomorrow

With core values of Respect, Responsibility, Readiness and Resilience, GPUTC prepares students to enter the world of work with confidence, professionalism, and purpose.

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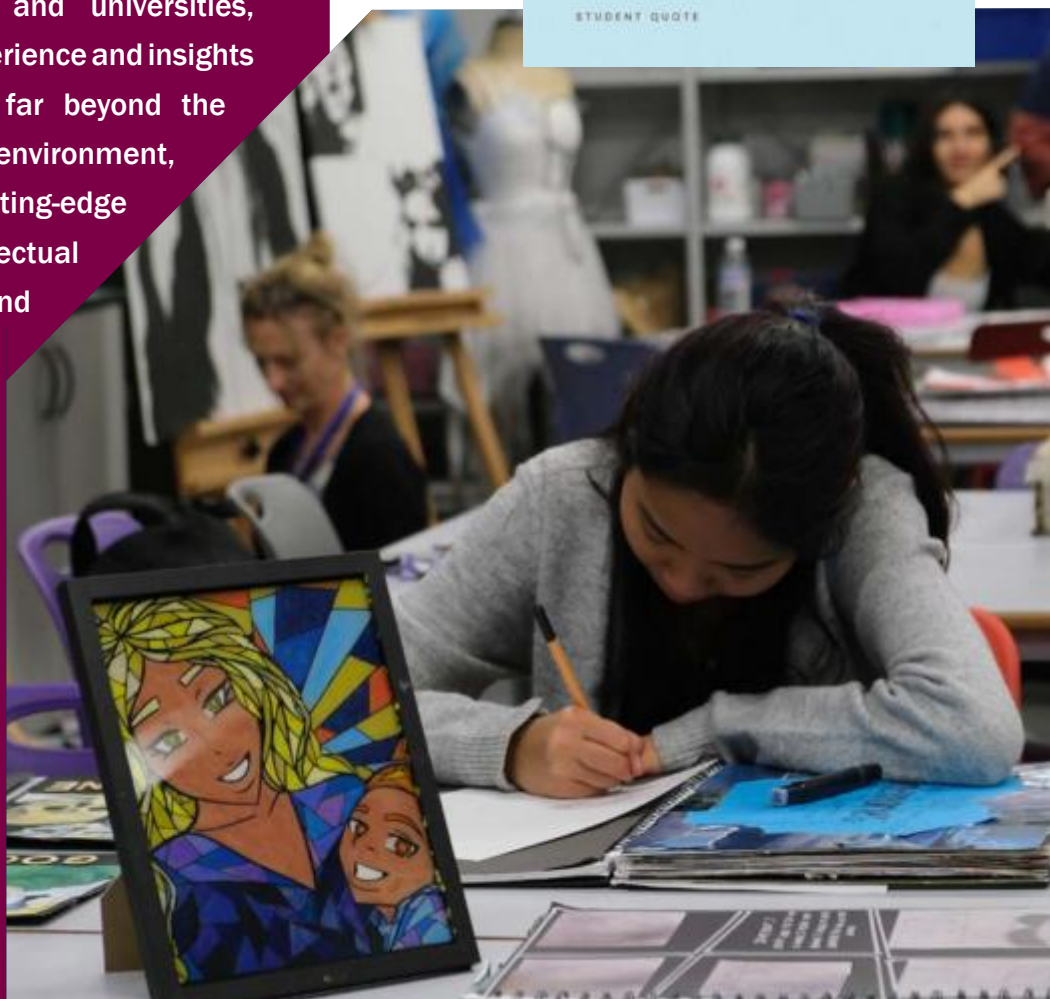
MESSAGE FROM THE HEAD OF SIXTH FORM

Thank you for your interest in the Sixth Form at Greater Peterborough UTC. We're excited to welcome driven, high-achieving students into a community focused on academic and professional excellence.

Our vision is to inspire and challenge students, setting them on a clear path toward top universities, apprenticeships, and competitive careers. Built on the principles of inclusivity, collaboration, and high standards, our Sixth Form encourages ambition, integrity, and a commitment to success.

Through strong partnerships with industry professionals, businesses, and universities, students gain real-world experience and insights that enrich their learning far beyond the classroom. Our supportive environment, expert guidance, and cutting-edge facilities help foster intellectual curiosity, personal growth, and a proactive mindset.

Joining GPUTC Sixth Form means becoming part of a community that supports your aspirations and helps you reach your full potential. We wish you every success in your final GCSE year and look forward to welcoming you in September.



> Both students are exceeding our expectations in every area and we would rate them as 'excellent' across the board.
>
> GCE HIRE FLEET – T LEVEL PLACEMENT STUDENT FEEDBACK

ALIGNING SKILLS WITH PETERBOROUGH'S ECONOMIC GROWTH PLAN

Peterborough's Economic Growth Strategy, approved in late 2024, sets a clear direction for the city's future — one built on sustainability, innovation, inclusivity, connectivity, and attractiveness. Its vision is to make Peterborough a city of opportunity, where residents enjoy access to well-paid, high-skill jobs, improved wellbeing, and a thriving environment.

At the heart of the strategy are key priorities that directly connect to the education and training we deliver at GPUTC:

Innovation and Diversity
Developing adaptable, creative thinkers who can shape the next generation of advanced industries.

Inclusivity
Ensuring every student has access to career pathways that lead to meaningful, skilled employment.

Attractiveness
Encouraging civic pride through projects that strengthen community and enhance the city's appeal.

Connectivity
Emphasising the importance of digital literacy, transport innovation, and modern infrastructure.

To deliver on this vision, the council's plan identifies "game-changing interventions" in areas such as skills and talent development, urban regeneration, and environmental innovation.

At Greater Peterborough UTC, we monitor these local growth priorities and the Local Skills Improvement Plan (LSIP) closely. Our employer-led curriculum, T Level placements, and technical qualifications are carefully designed to align student learning with the skills our region needs most. By doing so, we ensure our learners leave GPUTC ready to contribute to Peterborough's sustainable and prosperous future — as innovators, engineers, and skilled professionals shaping the workforce of tomorrow.

ABOUT GPUTC SIXTH FORM

At Greater Peterborough UTC's Sixth Form, your Post-16 years become the launch-pad for meaningful futures. Here, you will combine rigorous STEM-based academic study (A-Levels or T-Levels) with authentic technical specialisms, all delivered in partnership with industry leaders. You'll spend your time learning not just what is in the textbooks, but what matters in the workplace: tackling real employer projects, using industry-standard equipment in cutting-edge workshops, and gaining guided work experience that builds both skills and confidence.

Because our Sixth Form cohort is smaller, every student is known, supported and encouraged. A dedicated Head of KS5, a KS5 Support Officer, tailored career guidance, and enrichment activities ensure that your individual ambitions are recognised, nurtured and realised.

The curriculum is built around your next steps: whether you're aiming for university, a higher or degree apprenticeship, or entering employment directly, we equip you to succeed. You'll graduate with qualifications prized by higher education and recognized by employers, but importantly also with real experience of solving problems, teamwork, communication, and professional behaviours—things that make applications stand out and interviews flow naturally.

Our employer partnerships are central to how we do things. Local, National and International businesses not only help shape what you study but also offer live project briefs, work placements, mentoring, insight days, and networking opportunities. These links open doors: meeting people in the field, seeing first-hand what workplaces expect, and in many cases, laying the foundations for apprenticeships or roles after you finish.

Success at GPUTC is measured by what happens next. Our students consistently move into STEM-related employment, training, apprenticeships or university courses. Every leaver is supported to find a destination that matches their skills, interests and potential. The knowledge, technical expertise, real-world experience and professionalism you gain here make that possible.

In short: GPUTC Sixth Form is more than studying for exams. It is about becoming the kind of candidate that top employers want, and the kind of student that top universities value. Here, your next steps don't have to be uncertain—they can be confident.

> The Sixth form Area is a professional environment where I can get work done or complete group projects
>
> STUDENT QUOTE

WHAT WE LOOK FOR IN POST-16 STUDENTS

We assess every application on academic potential alone—your ability, your ambition, your readiness. These are the qualities we believe help students thrive here:

Key Qualities

- **Ambitious & Aspirational** — aiming high, setting goals, wanting to improve.
- **Motivated & Committed** — consistency, effort and staying the course, even when it's challenging.
- **Self-Discipline & Independence** — meeting deadlines, working independently, managing your time.
- **Logical Thinker & Open-Minded** — analysing problems clearly, being curious, being ready to learn new ideas.

Academic & Subject Interest

- Strong performance in relevant subject(s).
- Genuine interest in the subject(s) you apply for — shown through reading, projects, coursework, extra-learning.
- Thoughtful choices: you pick courses that inspire you and that you'll work hard for.

Wider Engagement & Attributes

- Evidence of involvement beyond the classroom: clubs, volunteering, work experience.
- Ability to communicate, work with others, and collaborate.
- Resilience: bouncing back from set-backs, learning from mistakes.

What We Expect

- Attendance, punctuality, reliability.
- Respect, positive attitude, readiness to contribute in class and in a team.
- Willingness to ask questions, push yourself and go beyond the minimum.

If you bring these qualities—strong grades, real curiosity, and the drive to grow—you'll make the most of what we offer and be well prepared for your next steps.

WHY SUPER-CURRICULARS MAKE A DIFFERENCE

For places at Oxford Cambridge and other top universities, or for the highly competitive areas of degree level apprenticeships excellent grades are essential—but they are no longer enough by themselves. Super-curricular activities show admissions tutors that you are intellectually curious, self-motivated, and ready to engage deeply with your chosen subject beyond the classroom.

At our UTC you'll have unique access to these kinds of opportunities — ones that often aren't available at regular Post-16 colleges.

Here are just some of the enriching activities you could get involved with at our UTC. These help you stand out in university and apprenticeship applications (especially for competitive destinations like Oxbridge).

What You Can Do

Additional Academic Qualifications — EPQ, Further Mathematics

Professional / Technical Qualifications — CAD, First Aid, Health & Safety

Clubs, Societies & Competitions — Airgineers; STEM Racing; Hackathons; Field Gun

Residentials & University Outreach Programmes — STEM Smart at Cambridge; STEM Potential at Imperial

What It Shows & Why It's Valued

Demonstrates capacity for independent research and handling demanding content; great for rigorous academic courses.

Adds practical, recognised skills; shows responsibility and readiness for both work and study environments.

Proves teamwork, problem solving, creativity and technical interest; gives concrete evidence of applying subject knowledge outside of classes.

Offers exposure to university-level teaching, specialist masterclasses, insight into life at top universities; helps you make informed choices and strengthens your application.

> "Evelina is punctual and conducts herself very well. She has a great attitude when we are looking over tasks and makes sure to listen and focuses. I feel like she is learning and developing well. She has a Risk Opportunity and Value meeting which she is Leading next week, and she was worked very hard. I would say she is in the category of good - excellent across the board."
>
> ANGLIAN WATER -T LEVEL PLACEMENT STUDENT FEEDBACK

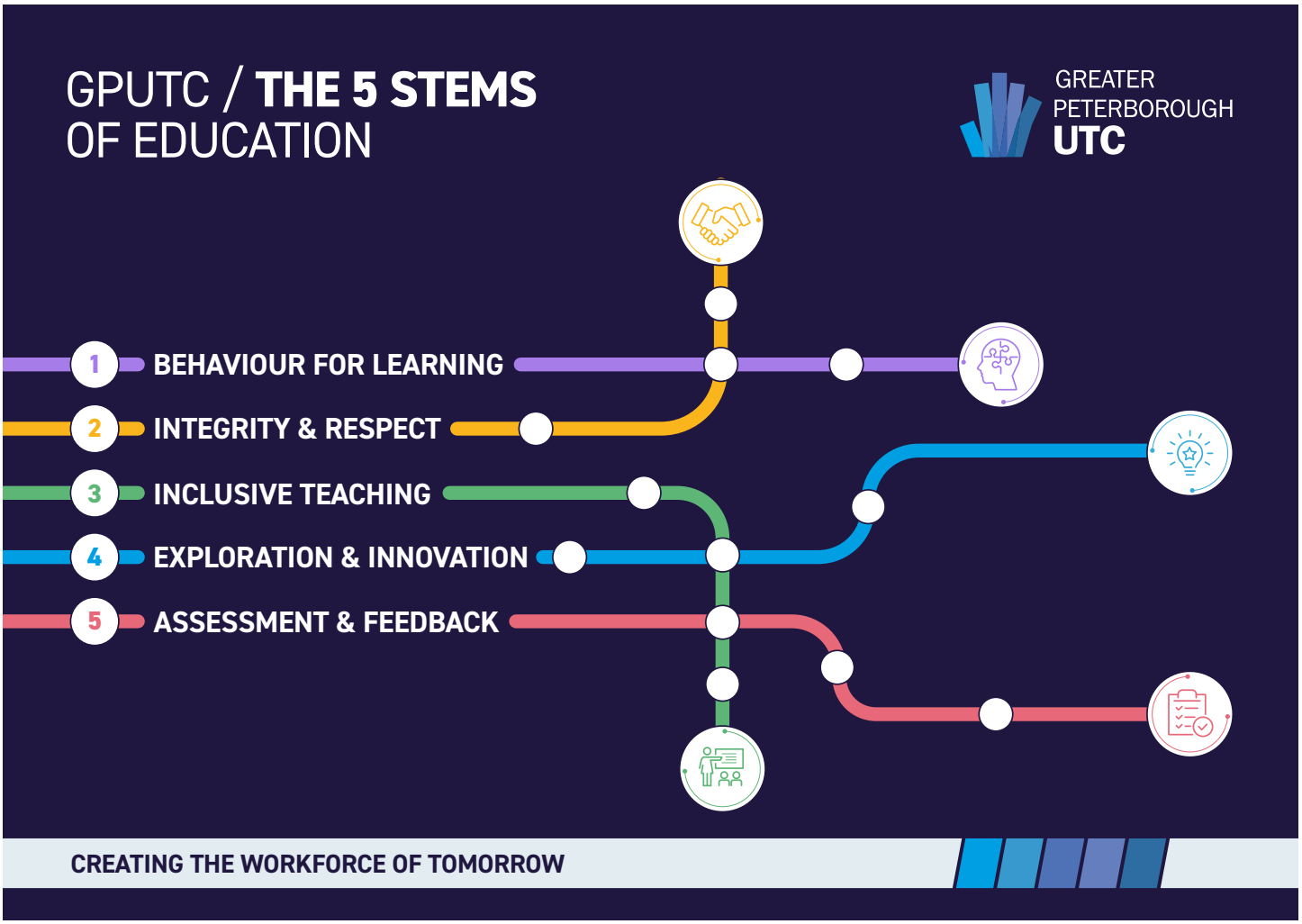
The 5 Stems of Education – Preparing Post-16 Students for the Future

At Greater Peterborough UTC, our Five Stems of Education underpin everything we do, shaping post-16 students into confident, capable, and career-ready young adults. These principles combine academic rigour, technical expertise, and personal development, ensuring our students are fully equipped to thrive in university, higher apprenticeships, and the workplace.
Behaviour for Learning - creating a culture of professionalism and respect. High expectations, clear routines, and a focus on self-discipline prepare students for the realities of higher education and employment.

Integrity & Respect - form the foundation of our community. We expect our students to act with honesty, empathy, and purpose—values that define both strong leaders and responsible citizens.
Inclusive Teaching - ensure every learner is supported and challenged to reach their full potential. Through carefully planned lessons, data-driven teaching, and targeted intervention, students are guided to achieve beyond expectation.

Exploration & Innovation - encourages curiosity and creativity, linking learning directly to real industry challenges. Our students work with local and national employers, applying STEM knowledge to genuine projects that develop both technical and transferable skills.
Assessment & Feedback - keeps students on a clear path of improvement. Regular assessment and constructive feedback help students take ownership of their progress, reflect on their learning, and develop resilience in pursuit of excellence.

Together, these five stems represent our shared vision: to nurture the innovators, engineers, and professionals of tomorrow through education that is ambitious, inclusive, and industry-focused.



OUR INDUSTRY PARTNERS

'Creating the Workforce of Tomorrow'

Partnerships in Action at GPUTC
At GPUTC, we believe that strong industry connections are the key to preparing our students for the future. We take pride in ourselves on how we connect education with industry. Through our valued business partnerships, we work closely with employers to ensure our curriculum aligns with real-world industry needs, helping to bridge the skills gap in science, engineering, manufacturing and technology.

Partner Engagement & GPUTC's Curriculum Difference
At Greater Peterborough UTC (GPUTC), we do education differently - and that difference gives you an edge.

Our mission is to bridge the gap between education and industry, partners from global engineering firms to local innovative businesses who are actively involved in shaping your learning.

What does this mean for you?
Real-world projects
Many of your assignments will be inspired by, or delivered with, real companies. You'll solve problems that businesses are actually working on.

Employer-led experiences
You'll meet professionals, visit workplaces, and gain insight into industries like advanced manufacturing, engineering and digital technologies.

Workplace ready skills
You will develop not just academic knowledge but also professional and entrepreneurial skills that employers value, including communication, teamwork and digital literacy.

The UTC Difference
Unlike a traditional school, GPUTC offers a STEM focused curriculum that blends academic excellence with employer led learning.
Our schools values - Respect, Responsibility, Readiness and Resilience - run through everything we do, preparing you to succeed not just in exams but in life and work.

When joining GPUTC, you're not just preparing for qualifications you are preparing to step confidently into the future.

CODEM COMPOSITES
M & K Trading Ltd Paper & Board Machinery
SCHOOLS' AEROSPACE CAREERS PROGRAMME
CATERPILLAR
Ansys
GCE HIRE FLEET LTD
CHART Incorporating Peter Brotherhood Products
amazon.co.uk
BAKKAVÖR
MAM Solutions Additive Manufacturing Consultancy
Baker Perkins
VOGAL GROUP
STIRLINGMAYNARD CONSULTING ENGINEERS
sinto OMEGA

OUR CAREERS VISION AND STRATEGY

At Greater Peterborough UTC, our vision is clear — to create the workforce of tomorrow. We prepare our students not just for exams, but for meaningful careers in the industries shaping our future.

Our careers strategy is built around real-world learning, professional behaviours, and employer engagement. Every student benefits from a structured programme that supports them to explore, plan and progress — all aligned with the Gatsby Benchmarks for excellent career guidance.

From the moment students join our Sixth Form, they're immersed in opportunities that connect learning to life beyond the classroom. This includes:

Employer-Led Projects:
Students work on live briefs set by local and national industry partners, gaining hands-on experience in sectors such as engineering, manufacturing, computing and design.

Meaningful Work Placements: Every T Level and Sixth Form pathway includes a work-based element, giving students valuable experience and professional confidence before they leave education.

Career Guidance and Mentoring:
Personalised support from our dedicated Careers and Industry team helps students identify their aspirations, understand the routes available — including apprenticeships, higher education, and direct employment — and take informed next steps.

Business Partner Engagement: Through events such as our Business Partner Days, Employer Projects, and Alumni Networking Sessions, students meet professionals, gain insights into industry trends, and build networks that last well beyond their time at GPUTC.

Our approach ensures every student develops the skills, readiness and resilience needed to thrive in the modern workforce. By the time they complete Sixth Form, our students leave as confident, capable young professionals — ready to take their next step towards a successful future.

> "For his age his technical knowledge and understand of drawings and technical documentation seem high.
>
> For a 17 year old, I believe Harley has excellent potential and would be a valuable addition to Zeeco in the near future. Very confident, ask lots of questions and a willingness to learn.
>
> ZEECO - T LEVEL PLACEMENT STUDENT FEEDBACK

ART AND DESIGN

careers using art and design

fine art
body art
printing
animation
interior design
industrial design
picture framing
landscape design
product design
make-up artistry
architecture

illustration
set design
modelmaking
furniture design
craft work and design
visual merchandising
museum and gallery work
costume design
hairdressing
web design
fashion design

floristry
signmaking
advertising
art therapy
photography
production design
exhibition design
textile design
digital design
graphic design
teaching

GREATER PETERBOROUGH UTC

A Level Art and Design: Eduqas

Overview: A Level Art and Design is an engaging course that encourages creativity, critical thinking, and a deep appreciation for art, craft, and design.
This course nurtures the development of intellectual, imaginative, creative, and intuitive capabilities. Students gain the skills needed to analyse, experiment, and express their ideas through a wide variety of media, from traditional materials to digital formats. At our UTC, students benefit from industry-linked projects and access to modern facilities, allowing them to explore art and design within a practical, real-world context.

Why Study A Level Art and Design?
This course enables students to explore their creativity and develop their individual artistic style, preparing them for further study or careers in the creative industries. It is ideal for those with a passion for art and a desire to express ideas visually. Studying Art and Design at our UTC allows students to collaborate with industry professionals, gain insights into contemporary art practices, and experience how art interacts with technology. This unique approach helps students understand the role of art in society and the creative economy, providing a strong foundation for a future in design, architecture, media, or fine arts.

Potential Career Pathways:
A Level Art and Design is a gateway to numerous creative careers, including:-

- Graphic design
- Illustration
- Fashion
- Architecture
- Interior design
- Fine arts.

It also prepares students for higher education courses in art, design, and media. The course builds a portfolio that is essential for university applications and equips students with the skills needed to work in galleries, museums, or as independent artists.

Skills Developed:

- Intellectual, imaginative, and creative capabilities
- Investigative, analytical, and experimental skills
- Aesthetic understanding and critical judgment
- Practical and technical skills across various media
- Development of personal ideas and outcomes
- Understanding the relationship between art, craft, and design
- Exploration of art in contemporary and historical contexts
- Awareness of real-world applications and creative industry links

Exams and Assessment:

- A Level Art and Design is assessed through two key components:
- Personal Investigation:
- Consists of a major in-depth project with practical and theoretical elements based on a theme of personal significance.
- Includes an extended written element of at least 1,000 words, relating to the student's practical work.
- Assessed internally by the teacher and externally moderated.
- No time limit; the duration is set by the centre.

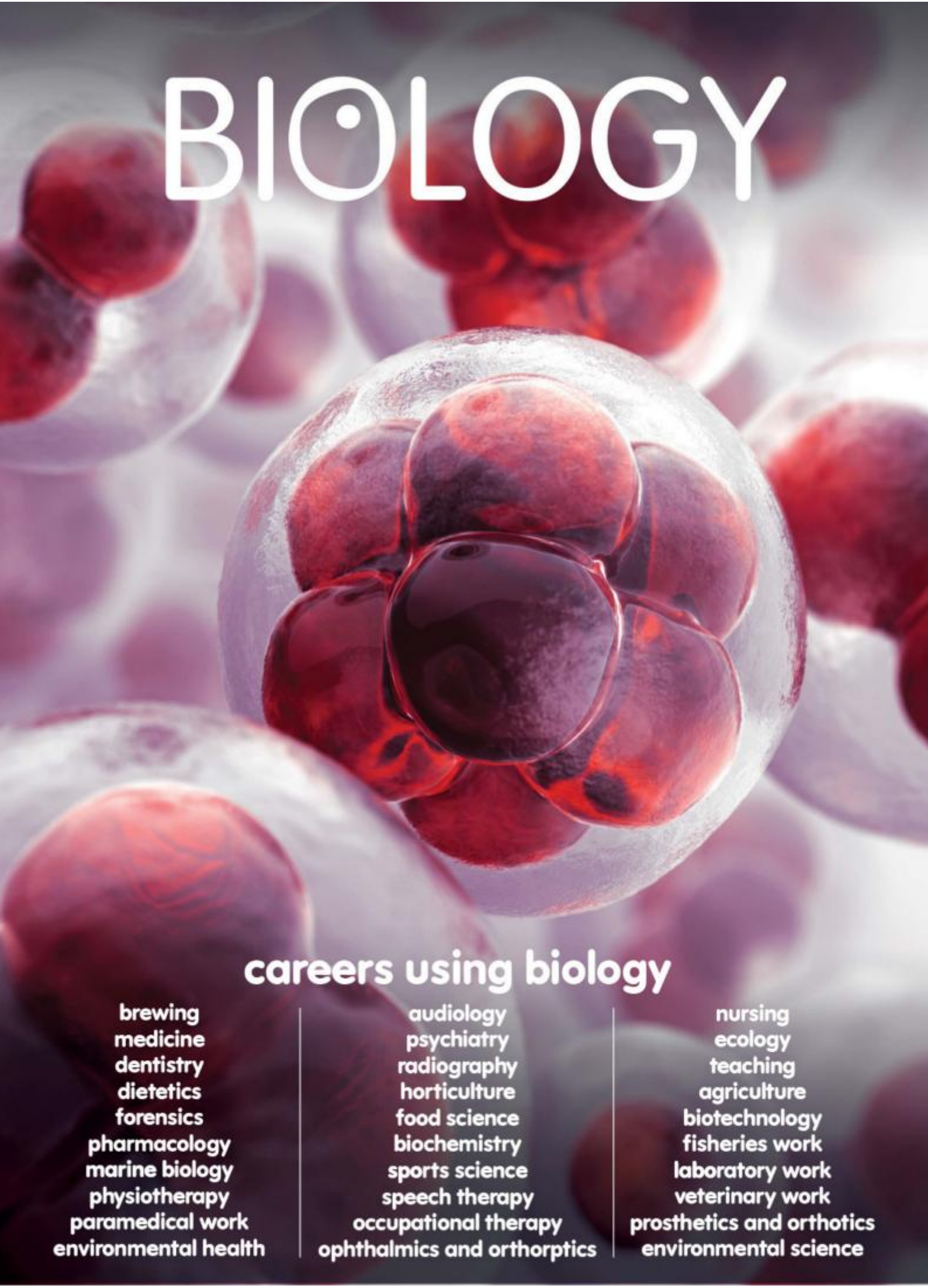
Externally Set Assignment:

- Begins with a preparatory study period starting on or after 1st February in the second year, using visual and written stimuli provided by Eduqas.
- Students choose a starting point, develop their ideas, and prepare critical, practical, and theoretical work.
- Includes a 15-hour sustained focus period under supervised conditions to complete the final piece.
- Assessed internally and externally moderated.

Entry Requirements:

- Grade 5 GCSE in Art or a related subject
- Grade 5 GCSE in English Language and Maths

BIOLOGY



careers using biology

brewing
medicine
dentistry
dietetics
forensics
pharmacology
marine biology
physiotherapy
paramedical work
environmental health

audiology
psychiatry
radiography
horticulture
food science
biochemistry
sports science
speech therapy
occupational therapy
ophthalmics and orthorptics

nursing
ecology
teaching
agriculture
biotechnology
fisheries work
laboratory work
veterinary work
prosthetics and orthotics
environmental science

GREATER PETERBOROUGH UTC

A Level Biology OCR (A Level Biology A Spec)

Overview: Studying A Level Biology at a UTC provides students with a deep understanding of the living world, from the microscopic workings of cells to the complexities of entire ecosystems. Our industry-oriented environment ensures that students can apply biological principles in real-world scenarios, with access to advanced lab facilities and practical experiences that go beyond the classroom. This approach not only supports students in mastering challenging content but also prepares them for further study and careers in life sciences and biotechnology.

Why Study A Level Biology?
Biology is the study of life and living organisms, making it a vital subject for those interested in understanding the natural world. It allows students to explore the complexities of biological systems, from genetic inheritance to ecosystem dynamics. A Level Biology is a gateway to numerous scientific and medical fields, and it develops analytical, practical, and research skills that are highly valued by universities and employers.

Potential Career Pathways:
A Level Biology can lead to a wide range of university courses and careers, including:-

- Medicine
- Veterinary Science
- Genetics
- Biotechnology
- Environmental science, and more

It is also highly beneficial for careers in healthcare, pharmaceuticals, conservation, and research.

Topics Covered:

***Year 1 Topics*:**
- Cells
- Biological Molecules
- DNA
- Enzymes
- Exchange and Transport in Living Things
- Communicable Disease and Immunity
- Biodiversity
- Classification and Evolution

***Year 2 Topics*:**
- Homeostasis
- Neuronal Communication
- Hormonal Communication
- Photosynthesis
- Respiration
- Genetic Inheritance
- Manipulating the Genome
- Cloning and Biotechnology
- Ecosystems and Populations
- Sustainability

Assessment:
- Biological Processes (Paper 1): 2 hours 15 minutes written paper, 37% of A Level.
- Biological Diversity (Paper 2): 2 hours 15 minutes written paper, 37% of A Level.
- Unified Biology (Paper 3): 1 hour 30 minutes written paper, 26% of A Level.

Entry Requirements:
- Grade 6 in Biology GCSE or
- Grade 6/6 in Combined Science GCSE
- Grade 6 in GCSE Mathematics
- Grade 5 in GCSE English Language

careers using business

buying
civil service
marketing
procurement
clerical work
public relations
manufacturing
local government
importing/exporting
hospitality management

banking
accounting
administration
advertising
economics
credit control
entrepreneurship
systems analysis
office management
transport and logistics

insurance
bookkeeping
retail and sales
human resources
call centre work
industrial relations
quantity surveying
business development
property management
health service management

GREATER PETERBOROUGH UTC

A Level Business: Edexcel

Overview: A Level Business is designed to provide students with a comprehensive understanding of how businesses operate, from small enterprises to global corporations. It covers essential business concepts, strategies, and decision-making processes that are vital in today's dynamic economic environment. Studying Business at our UTC offers students the chance to engage with local businesses, participate in industry projects, and apply their knowledge to real-world business scenarios.

Why Study A Level Business?
This course equips students with the skills, knowledge, and understanding required to succeed in the business world and higher education. It encourages critical thinking, problem-solving, and decision-making abilities, preparing students for a range of business-related degrees or careers. Our UTC's emphasis on active learning, current affairs, and real-life business case studies provides a stimulating environment for students, enabling them to build their confidence and develop valuable skills for the future.

Potential Career Pathways:
A Level Business opens the door to numerous higher education opportunities, including:-

- Degrees in Business Management
- Marketing
- Finance
- Accounting
- Economics.

It also provides a strong foundation for those interested in starting their own business or pursuing careers in sectors such as retail, banking, consulting, and public administration. The analytical and evaluative skills gained through this course are highly valued by employers across industries.

Topics Covered:

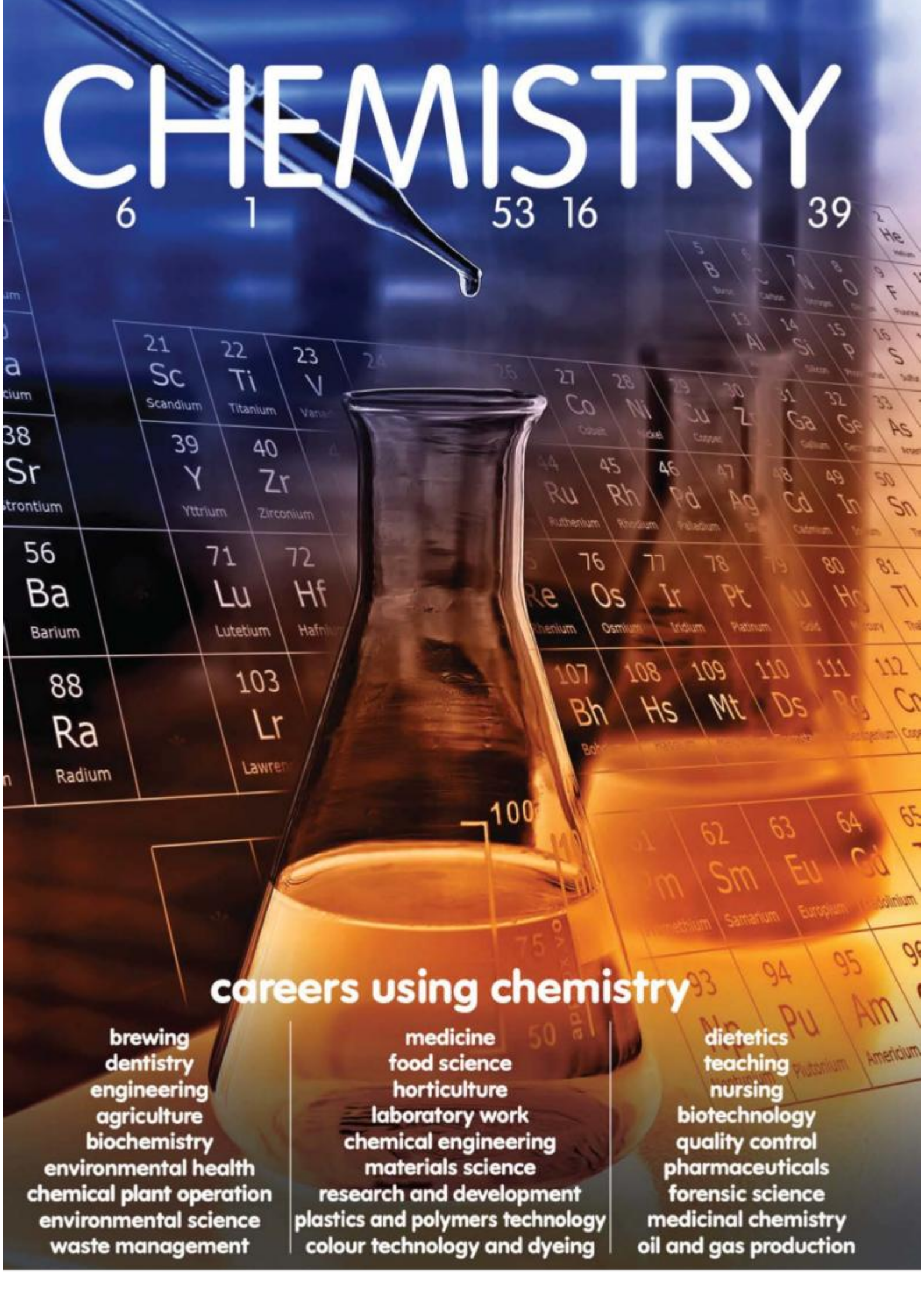
- Business objectives and strategic decisions
- External influences on business
- Marketing strategies and tactics
- Operational management
- Human resource management
- Financial decision-making
- Managing change and assessing competitiveness
- Global business and markets

Assessment:
A Level Business is assessed through three written exams:

- **Paper 1: Marketing, People and Global Businesses**
  - 2 hours, 35% of the A Level
  - Focuses on marketing, people management, and global business operations.
- **Paper 2: Business Activities, Decisions and Strategy**
  - 2 hours, 35% of the A Level
  - Covers business activities, strategic decisions, and planning.
- **Paper 3: Investigating Business in a Competitive Environment**
  - 2 hours, 30% of the A Level
  - Requires students to apply their knowledge to a pre-released context, analysing business environments and making strategic decisions.

Entry Requirements:

- 5 GCSE Grades 9-4, with at least a Grade 5 in English and Grade 5 in Maths.
- Prior study of GCSE, Level 2 BTEC, or Tech Level Business Studies is desirable but not required


CHEMISTRY
6 1 53 16 39
careers using chemistry
brewing
dentistry
engineering
agriculture
biochemistry
environmental health
chemical plant operation
environmental science
waste management
medicine
food science
horticulture
laboratory work
chemical engineering
materials science
research and development
plastics and polymers technology
colour technology and dyeing
dietetics
teaching
nursing
biotechnology
quality control
pharmaceuticals
forensic science
medicinal chemistry
oil and gas production

GREATER PETERBOROUGH UTC

A Level Chemistry OCR (A Level Chemistry A Spec)

Overview: A Level Chemistry at a UTC offers a comprehensive study of chemical principles and their practical applications. In our unique setting, students have access to industry-standard lab facilities, allowing them to experience the practical side of chemistry that aligns closely with real-world industry practices. This hands-on approach helps students to not only master theoretical concepts but also to develop the technical skills needed for further study and employment in chemical and related fields.

Why Study A Level Chemistry?
Chemistry is known as the central science, bridging the gap between biology and physics, and providing a foundation for understanding the material world. It plays a crucial role in numerous industries, including pharmaceuticals, engineering, environmental science, and more. A Level Chemistry is ideal for students who enjoy problem-solving and practical work, and it opens doors to a wide range of scientific and technical degrees and careers.

Potential Career Pathways:
A Level Chemistry is essential for those aiming to pursue university courses in:-

- Medicine
- Chemical Engineering
- Biochemistry
- Environmental Science
- Pharmacy

It is also highly valuable for careers in research, forensics, materials science, and the energy sector.

Topics Covered:

- Atoms, Compounds, Molecules, and Equations
- Acid-Base and Redox Reactions
- Electrons, Bonding, and Structure
- Periodicity
- Qualitative Analysis
- Enthalpy Changes
- Reaction Rates and Equilibrium (Qualitative)
- Organic Synthesis
- Analytical Techniques
- Reaction Rates and Equilibrium (Quantitative)
- Enthalpy, Entropy, and Free Energy
- Redox and Electrode Potentials
- Transition Elements
- Aromatic Compounds
- Carbonyl Compounds
- Carboxylic Acids and Esters
- Polymers
- Organic Synthesis
- Chromatography and Spectroscopy

Assessment:

- Periodic Table, Elements and Physical Chemistry (Paper 1): 2 hours 15 minutes written paper, 37% of A Level.
- Synthesis and Analytical Techniques (Paper 2): 2 hours 15 minutes written paper, 37% of A Level.
- Unified Chemistry (Paper 3): 1 hour 30 minutes written paper, 26% of A Level.

Entry Requirements:

- Grade 6 in Chemistry GCSE or
- Grade 6/6 in Combined Science GCSE
- Grade 6 in GCSE Mathematics
- Grade 5 in GCSE English Language


EMBEDDED SYSTEMS ENGINEER
SOFTWARE ENGINEER
AEROSPACE SYSTEMS ENGINEER
ETHICAL HACKER
COMPUTATIONAL ARTIST
GAMES DESIGNER
WHERE CAN COMPUTER SCIENCE TAKE YOU?
DATA SCIENTIST
QUANTUM COMPUTING RESEARCHER
FULL STACK ENGINEER
MACHINE LEARNING ENGINEER
SYSTEMS ARCHITECT
ROBOTICS ENGINEER

GREATER PETERBOROUGH UTC

A Level Computer Science: OCR

Overview: A Level Computer Science is designed to give students a deep understanding of how computers work, from the theoretical underpinnings to practical programming skills. It explores the fundamental concepts of computing, programming, and algorithms, enabling students to solve complex problems and think computationally. Studying Computer Science at our UTC provides unique opportunities to work on industry-relevant projects, access state-of-the-art technology, and collaborate with local tech companies, ensuring students gain practical experience alongside theoretical knowledge.

Why Study A Level Computer Science?
Computer Science is essential in a world increasingly reliant on technology. It develops analytical and problem-solving skills, preparing students for careers in software development, cybersecurity, artificial intelligence, and data science. At our UTC, students benefit from a practical, hands-on approach to learning and the opportunity to apply their skills in real-world scenarios. This course is ideal for students who are logical thinkers and enjoy problem-solving and understanding the inner workings of software and hardware systems.

Potential Career Pathways:
A Level Computer Science opens doors to a wide range of university courses and careers, including:-

- Computer Science
- Software Engineering
- Data Science
- Cybersecurity
- Artificial Intelligence
- Game Development.

It is also highly valued in fields like mathematics, physics, and engineering. The skills learned through this course are in demand across various industries, making it a versatile and valuable qualification.

Topics Covered:

- Characteristics of Contemporary Processors, Input, Output, and Storage Devices
- Software and Software Development
- Exchanging Data
- Data Types, Data Structures, and Algorithms
- Legal, Moral, Cultural, and Ethical Issues
- Elements of Computational Thinking
- Problem Solving and Programming
- Algorithms to Solve Problems and Standard Algorithms

***Assessment*:**

- **Computer Systems (01):**
  - Assesses: Theoretical understanding of computer systems
  - Written Exam: 2 hours 30 minutes (no calculators allowed)
  - 140 marks, 40% of A Level
- **Algorithms and Programming (02):**
  - Assesses: Problem-solving skills and algorithmic thinking
  - Written Exam: 2 hours 30 minutes (no calculators allowed)
  - 140 marks, 40% of A Level
- **Programming Project (03 or 04):**
  - Assesses: Practical application of programming skills through a self-chosen project
  - Non-Exam Assessment (NEA): 70 marks
  - Moderated Upload or Postal Submission
  - 20% of A Level

Entry Requirements:

- Grade 5 in GCSE English, Grade 5 in GCSE Maths, and Grade 5 in GCSE Computer Science or Grade 6 in ICT.

GREATER PETERBOROUGH UTC

Level 3 Extended Project Qualification (EPQ)

Overview: The EPQ allows students to lead their own projects. Students get to plan and carry out research on a topic that they've chosen and isn't covered by their other qualifications. They can take inspiration from something touched on in class or something personal and unrelated to their studies. They then use this research to produce a written report and, in the case of practical projects, an artefact or a production.

Our industry-oriented environment ensures that students leave us with a range of transferable skills required for their future careers. The EPQ facilitates this through covering skills such as project management, health and safety, ethics, research, referencing, data analysis and statistics, report writing and presentations.

Why Study an Extended Project Qualification?
The EPQ can be taken as an extension of other Level 3 qualifications or vocational qualifications and it's worth half an A-level (28 UCAS points). The EPQ is recognised by universities and employers and many universities make lower A-level offers to students undertaking an EPQ.

By taking responsibility for the choice, design and decision making of an individual project (or an individual role in a group project) students; become more critical, reflective and independent learners, develop and apply decision-making and problem-solving skills, learn to apply technologies confidently, and demonstrate creativity, initiative and enterprise.

Potential Career Pathways:
Studying a Level 3 Extended Project Qualification (EPQ) as a standalone qualification alongside sixth form courses allows students to extend and develop their abilities beyond the A-Level or T-Level syllabus and prepare for University or any future career.

Topics Covered
The EPQ is recommend to have 30 guided learning hours (1/4) for the taught skills element, maximising time for independent learning (3/4). Within these 30 hours students will cover:

- Choosing a topic, aims and objectives
- · Health and safety
- · Ethics
- · Collecting data (primary resources)
- · Navigating secondary resources
- · Note taking and reading
- · Plagiarism and referencing
- · Time management
- · Documenting progress
- · Presenting data and statistics
- · Writing academic reports
- · Editing and proofreading
- · Presentation skills
- · And, lessons which cover the expectations of the production log.

Assessment:

- The evidence for assessment will comprise the following:
- The completed Production Log and Assessment Record including the Project Proposal Form, Presentation Record and Candidate Record Form
- The project product including a written report and any other evidence, as appropriate, depending on the topic or subject area chosen.

Entry Requirements:

There are no formal entry requirements for EPQ.
The EPQ is a qualification offered within the T-Level Transition Pathway and completed during lesson time. Additionally, A-Level and T-Level students can choose to complete the EPQ as an enrichment option over the course of two years, on top of their sixth form studies.

GREATER PETERBOROUGH UTC

A Level Further Mathematics: Edexcel

Overview: A Level Further Mathematics is an advanced course that builds upon the concepts learned in A Level Mathematics, offering deeper insights into mathematical theory and its applications. At our UTC, the course is taught in a supportive environment where students can engage with challenging topics and apply their skills to practical and industry-relevant projects. The curriculum is designed to foster analytical thinking and problem-solving abilities, preparing students for the mathematical demands of STEM degrees and careers.

Why Study A Level Further Maths?
Further Mathematics is ideal for students with a strong interest in mathematics who wish to delve deeper into complex concepts and methods. It is highly regarded by universities, particularly for degrees in Mathematics, Physics, Engineering, and Computer Science. The course enhances understanding of advanced topics such as matrices, complex numbers, and differential equations, which are fundamental in many scientific and engineering fields. Studying this course at a UTC offers unique opportunities to see the practical applications of these concepts through projects and industry engagement.

Potential Career Pathways:
A Level Further Mathematics is highly valued for university courses such as:-

- Mathematics
- Physics
- Engineering
- Computer Science
- Economics, and more.

It is particularly beneficial for students aiming to attend competitive universities or pursue research-intensive degrees. It opens doors to careers in data science, finance, engineering, software development, and scientific research.

Topics Covered

- Pure Mathematics:
  - A: Proof
  - B: Complex Numbers
  - C: Matrices
  - D: Further Algebra and Functions
  - E: Further Calculus
  - F: Further Vectors
  - G: Polar Coordinates
  - H: Hyperbolic Functions
  - I: Differential Equations
  - J: Numerical Methods

Assessment:

- **Paper 1 & 2: Focus on core pure mathematics topics (A-J).**
  - Written exam: 1 hr and 30 mins
  - 100 marks
- **Paper 3 Options: Choose one option from the following:**
  - Option 1: Further pure mathematics 1
  - Option 2: Further statistics 1
  - Option 3: Further mechanics 1
  - Option 4: Decision mathematics 1
- **Paper 4 Options: Choose one option from the following topics covered:**
  - A: Further pure mathematics 2
  - B: Further statistics 1
  - C: Further mechanics 1
  - D: Decision mathematics 1
  - E: Further statistics 2
  - F: Further mechanics 2
  - G: Decision mathematics 2

Each option is assessed through a 1hr 30 mins written exam, 100 marks, and 25% of the A Level for each paper.

Entry Requirements:

- Grade 7 in GCSE Mathematics
  Must be taken alongside A Level Mathematics


MATHEMATICS
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careers using mathematics
science
construction
accountancy
economics
pharmacy
engineering
retail and sales
air traffic control
industrial design
network management
transport and logistics
banking
statistics
insurance
actuarial work
bookkeeping
astronomy
management
architecture
sound technology
investment analysis
software development
buying
teaching
health sciences
administration
stockbroking
surveying
meteorology
cyber security
market research
medical technology
computer games design

GREATER PETERBOROUGH UTC

A Level Mathematics AQA (A Level Mathematics Spec)

Overview: A Level Mathematics at our UTC is designed to develop a deep understanding of mathematical concepts and their applications. Students benefit from a practical approach to learning, with an emphasis on problem-solving and critical thinking. Our industry partnerships provide opportunities to see how mathematics is applied in real-world scenarios, from engineering and technology to data analysis and beyond.

Why Study A Level Maths?
Mathematics is fundamental to understanding and solving complex problems in a wide range of fields, including engineering, physics, computer science, and economics. It teaches students to think logically and to approach problems systematically. This course is ideal for those who enjoy working with numbers, patterns, and abstract concepts. It provides a strong foundation for further studies in STEM subjects and is highly valued by universities and employers alike.

Potential Career Pathways:
A Level Mathematics is a stepping stone to a variety of degree courses, such as:-

- Mathematics
- Physics
- Engineering
- Economics
- Computer Science.

It is also an asset in fields like finance, data science, actuarial science, and teaching. A strong background in mathematics can open doors to rewarding careers in research, technology, and business analytics.

Topics Covered:

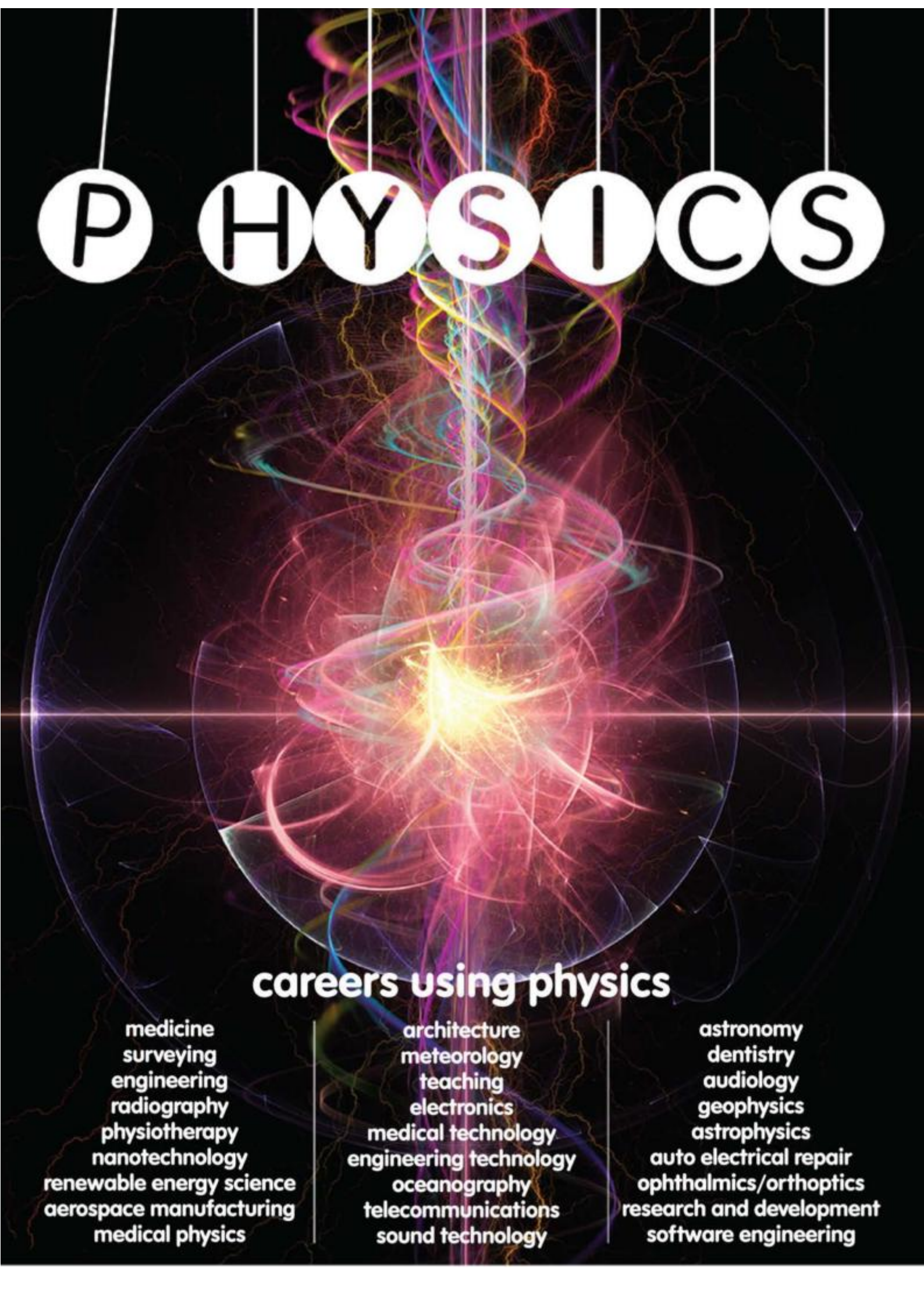
- *Pure Mathematics:*
- *A: Proof*
- *B: Algebra and Functions*
- *C: Coordinate Geometry in the (x, y) Plane*
- *D: Sequences and Series*
- *E: Trigonometry*
- *F: Exponentials and Logarithms*
- *G: Differentiation*
- *H: Integration*
- *I: Numerical Methods*
- *J: Vectors*
- *Statistics:*
- *K: Statistical Sampling*
- *L: Data Presentation and Interpretation*
- *M: Probability*
- *N: Statistical Distributions*
- *O: Statistical Hypothesis Testing*
- *Mechanics:*
- *P: Quantities and Units in Mechanics*
- *Q: Kinematics*
- *R: Forces and Newton's Laws*
- *S: Moments*

Assessment:

- Paper 1: Assesses any content from Pure Mathematics (A-I):
  - Written exam: 2 hours
  - 100 marks
  - 33⅓% of A Level
- Paper 2: Assesses Pure Mathematics (A-I) and Mechanics (J, P-S):
  - Written exam: 2 hours
  - 100 marks
  - 33⅓% of A Level
- Paper 3: Assesses Pure Mathematics (A-I) and Statistics (K-O):
  - Written exam: 2 hours
  - 100 marks
  - 33⅓% of A Level

Entry Requirements:

- Grade 6 in GCSE Mathematics
- Grade 5 in GCSE English Language


PHYSICS
careers using physics
medicine
surveying
engineering
radiography
physiotherapy
nanotechnology
renewable energy science
aerospace manufacturing
medical physics
architecture
meteorology
teaching
electronics
medical technology
engineering technology
oceanography
telecommunications
sound technology
astronomy
dentistry
audiology
geophysics
astrophysics
auto electrical repair
ophthalmics/orthoptics
research and development
software engineering

GREATER PETERBOROUGH UTC

A Level Physics OCR (A Level Physics A Spec)

Overview: Studying A Level Physics at a UTC offers students the unique opportunity to explore the fundamental principles that shape our universe in a practical, industry-focused environment. The course is designed to develop strong analytical, problem-solving, and mathematical skills. With access to specialist equipment and opportunities for hands-on learning, students benefit from close links with industry partners, providing a real-world context to their studies. This practical approach not only supports students in grasping challenging concepts but also enhances their understanding of how physics is applied in cutting-edge technologies and industries.

Why Study A Level Physics?
Physics is a fundamental science that helps us understand the workings of the universe, from the tiniest particles to the vastness of space. This course is ideal for students who are curious about how the world works and enjoy applying mathematical concepts to real-world problems. Physics is also highly respected by universities and employers, opening up pathways in fields like engineering, data analysis, astronomy, medical physics, and more.

Potential Career Pathways:
Physics is a highly versatile subject that can lead to a variety of pathways including:-

- Engineering
- Research
  Software Development
- Space Science
- Renewable Energy
  .....and many others.

Studying physics is also an excellent foundation for careers in medicine, finance, and any field requiring problem-solving skills.

Topics Covered:

- Year 1 Topics:
- Development of Practical Skills
- Motion
- Forces in Action
- Work, Energy, and Power
- Materials
- Newton's Laws of Motion and Momentum
- Charge and Current
- Energy, Power, and Resistance
- Electrical Circuits
- Waves
- Quantum Physics

Year 2 Topics:

- Thermal Physics
- Circular Motion
- Oscillations
- Gravitational Fields
- Astrophysics and Cosmology

Assessment:

- Modelling Physics (Paper 1): 2 hours 15 minutes written paper, 37% of A Level
- Exploring Physics (Paper 2): 2 hours 15 minutes written paper, 37% of A Level.
- Unified Physics (Paper 3): 1 hour 30 minutes written paper, 26% of A Level.

Entry Requirements:

- Grade 6 in Physics GCSE or
- Grade 6/6 in Combined Science GCSE
- Grade 6 in GCSE Mathematics
- Grade 5 in GCSE English Language

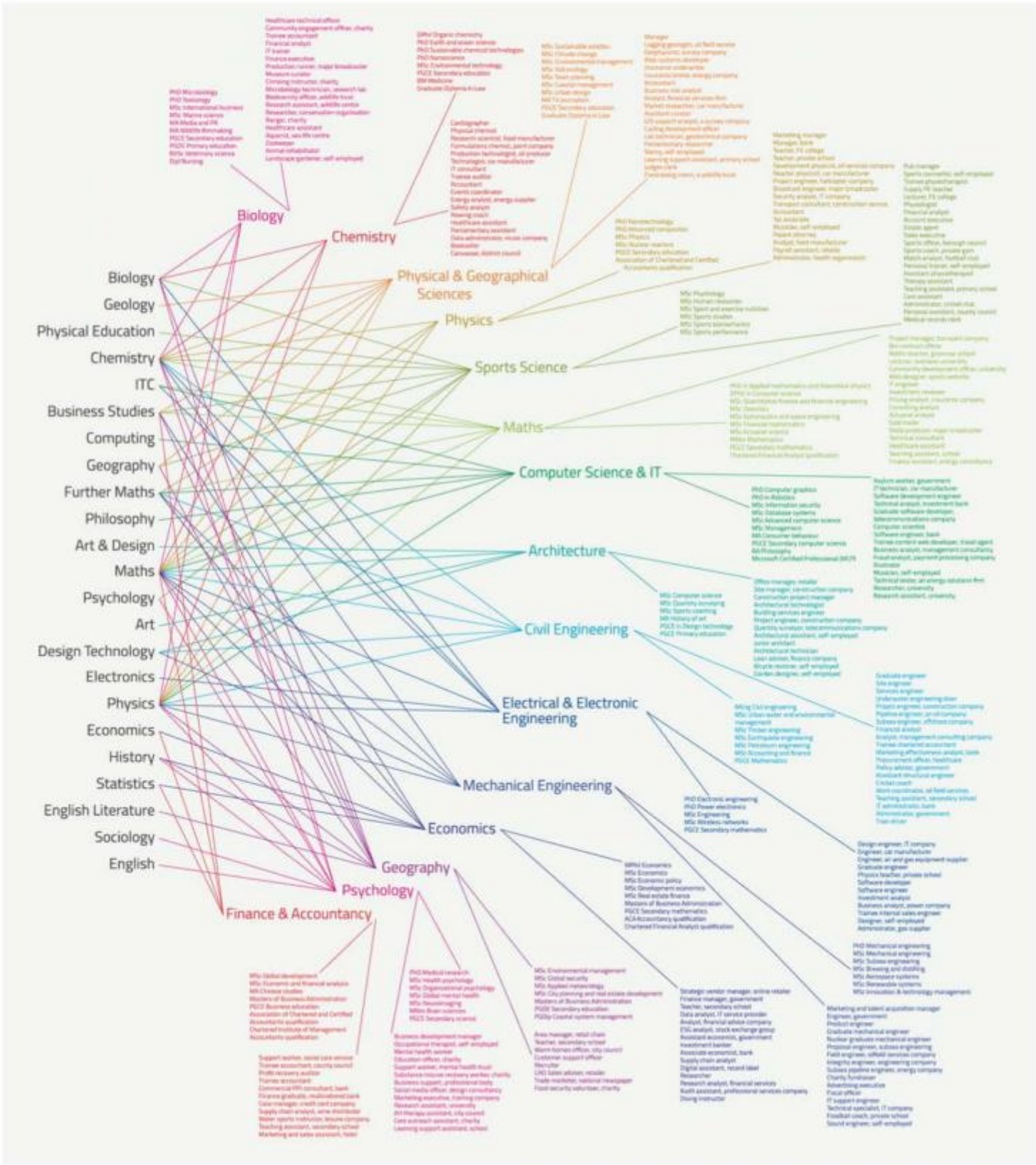
The Amazingly Enormous STEM Careers Poster

What Can I Do?

What kind of career could a science, technology, engineering or maths (STEM) degree lead to? You might be surprised to know that a degree in biology might help you become a zookeeper, or that mechanical engineering could land you a job in the music industry.

Take a look, on the right, at the jobs and qualifications that 2014's university graduates are doing. Follow the lines to see their degree, and the A-Levels you might need to do to follow in their footsteps. Then talk to your teachers about your GCSE options.

STEM degrees open the door to all sorts of interesting and often lucrative careers, in a wide variety of industries, some quite unexpected! Whether you want to be a manager or a musician, site engineer or football coach, researcher or radio producer, a STEM degree can get you there!



GREATER PETERBOROUGH UTC

A Level Product Design

Overview: A Level Product Design explores the creative, technical, and practical aspects of designing and creating innovative products. It integrates aspects of engineering, design theory, and problem-solving, offering a balance of theoretical understanding and hands-on practice. Studying this course at our UTC gives students access to industry-standard equipment, specialist workshops, and opportunities to collaborate with local industry partners, providing invaluable experience that prepares them for both university and employment in design and technology fields.

Why Study A Level Product Design?
This course is ideal for students who have a passion for creativity, innovation, and problem-solving. It provides an opportunity to learn about modern materials, production processes, and the life cycle of a product, from concept to creation. A Level Product Design at our UTC emphasizes real-world applications and sustainability, helping students to develop the skills needed to design products that are both functional and innovative. It is particularly beneficial for students considering careers in engineering, architecture, industrial design, and product management.

Potential Career Pathways:
A Level Product Design is a stepping stone to degrees in Product Design, Engineering, Architecture, Industrial Design, and more. It opens doors to creative and technical roles in industries such as automotive design, manufacturing, and sustainable product development. Students will also be well-prepared for apprenticeships in design, engineering, and manufacturing.

Topics Covered:

- *P3.1.1: Materials and Their Applications*
- *3.1.2: Performance Characteristics of Materials*
- *3.1.3: Enhancement of Materials*
- *3.1.4: Forming, Redistribution, and Addition Processes*
- *3.1.4.5: The Use of Adhesives and Fixings*
- *3.1.5: The Use of Finishes*
- *3.1.6: Modern Industrial and Commercial Practice*
- *3.1.6.2: Efficient Use of Materials*
- *3.1.7: Digital Design and Manufacture*
- *3.1.8: Requirements for Product Design and Development*
- *3.1.9: Health and Safety*
- *3.1.10: Protecting Designs and Intellectual Property*
- *3.1.11: Design for Manufacturing, Maintenance, Repair, and Disposal*
- *3.1.12: Feasibility Studies*
- *3.1.13: Enterprise and Marketing in Product Development*
- *3.1.14: Design Communication*
- *3.2.1: Design Methods and Processes*
- *3.2.2: Design Theory*
- *3.2.3: Impact of Technology and Cultural Changes on Design*
- *3.2.3.4: Product Life Cycle*
- *3.2.4: Design Processes*
- *3.2.5: Critical Analysis and Evaluation*
- *3.2.6: Selecting Appropriate Tools, Equipment, and Processes*
- *3.2.7: Accuracy in Design and Manufacture*
- *3.2.8: Responsible Design*
- *3.2.9: Design for Manufacture and Project Management*
- *3.2.10: National and International Standards in Product Design*

Assessment:

- *Paper 1:*
  - *Assesses: Technical Principles*
  - *Written Exam: 2 hours 30 minutes*
  - *120 marks, 30% of A Level*
- *Paper 2:*
  - *Assesses: Designing and Making Principles*
  - *Written Exam: 1 hour 30 minutes*
  - *80 marks, 20% of A Level*
  - *Questions include:*
    - *Section A: Product Analysis (30 marks)*
    - *Section B: Commercial Manufacture (50 marks)*
- *Non-Exam Assessment (NEA):*
  - *Assesses: Practical application of technical principles, designing and making principles*
  - *Substantial design and make project*
  - *100 marks, 50% of A Level*
  - *Evidence: Written or digital design portfolio and photographic evidence of final prototype*

Entry Requirements:

- Grade 5 in GCSE English Language, Maths, and a Design and Technology-related subject (or equivalent).

GREATER PETERBOROUGH UTC

T-LEVELS

THE NEXT LEVEL QUALIFICATION

2026/2027

T-LEVELS

THE NEXT LEVEL QUALIFICATION

'CREATING THE WORKFORCE OF TOMORROW'

Transition Programme – Pathway to Level 3 T-Level Engineering

This specially designed year supports students who are resitting a GCSE in English or Maths, while also undertaking a bridging qualification to prepare them for the full Level 3 T-Level in Engineering.

- If you are resitting GCSE Maths, you will also take the Extended Project Qualification
- If you are resitting GCSE English, you will instead take Core Maths.

Through this programme you will:

- Secure the essential GCSE grade you need to progress.
- Develop valuable higher-level skills: quantitative reasoning and problem solving via Core Maths, or independent research and project management via the EPQ. (EPQ is a Level 3 qualification worth up to 28 UCAS points and recognised by universities and employers.)
- Build confidence, discipline and readiness for the technical demands of the T-Level in Engineering — you'll be better prepared to engage with hands-on workshops, industry-led projects and the higher expectations of study and employment.
- Receive tailored support: focused tuition and revision for the resit, structured lessons for Core Maths or the EPQ, and mentoring to align your learning with your next steps in engineering.
- Transition smoothly into your Level 3 Engineering programme, having already developed the academic foundation, independent learning mindset and professionalism required by both universities and employers.

Why Pick Greater Peterborough UTC for T-Levels

GPUTC has an employer led curriculum focused on Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths.

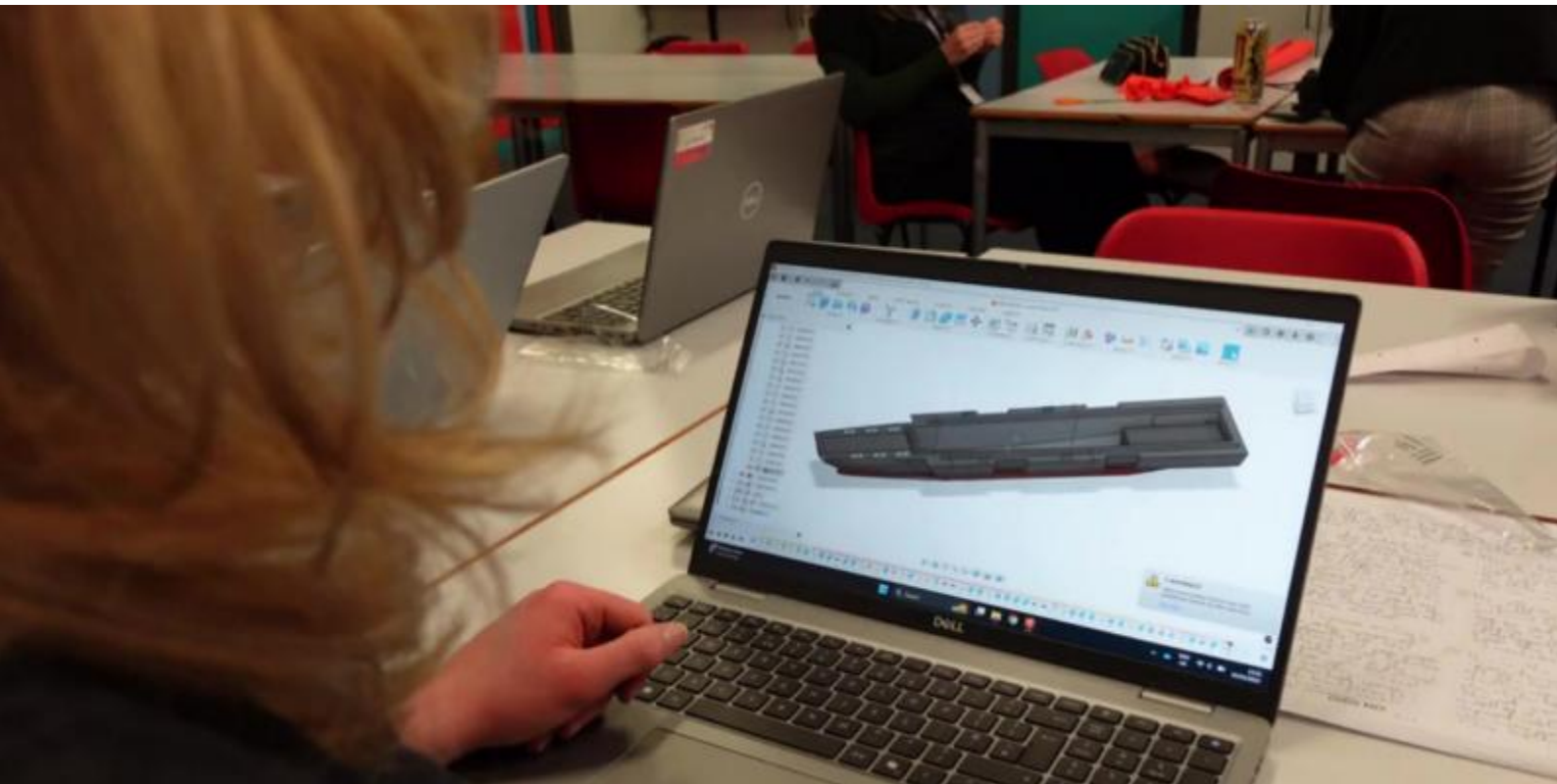
Our industry links focus on the skills and behaviours needed for the 21st centry workplace.

Our partners support us in many different ways by advising on skills needed, providing focused placements, running workshops, support curriculum design and also access to specialist industry equipment.

Our links with industry continue to expand within GPUTC and our Sixth Form. Students have more opportunities to excel and stand out more that any other local school.

Ofsted
Good
Provider

'Pupils understand the uniqueness of the school and its curriculum. There is an emphasis on Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) subjects. Pupils enjoy working in their well-equipped engineering suites and learning through their carefully planned project-based activities.'



T - Level Pathways

Design and Development for Engineering and Manufacture

WHAT WILL YOU LEARN?

Year 1 - ENGINEERING - CORE KNOWLEDGE

1 Working within the engineering and manufacturing sectors

2 Engineering and manufacturing past, present, and future

3 Engineering representations

4 Essential mathematics for engineering and manufacturing

5 Essential science for engineering and manufacturing

6 Materials and their properties

7 Mechanical principles

8 Electrical and electronic principles

9 Mechatronics

10 Engineering and manufacturing control systems

11 Quality management

12 Health and safety principles and coverage

13 Business, commercial and financial awareness

14 Professional responsibilities, attitudes, and behaviours

15 Stock and asset management

16 Continuous improvement

17 Project and programme management

T - Level Pathways

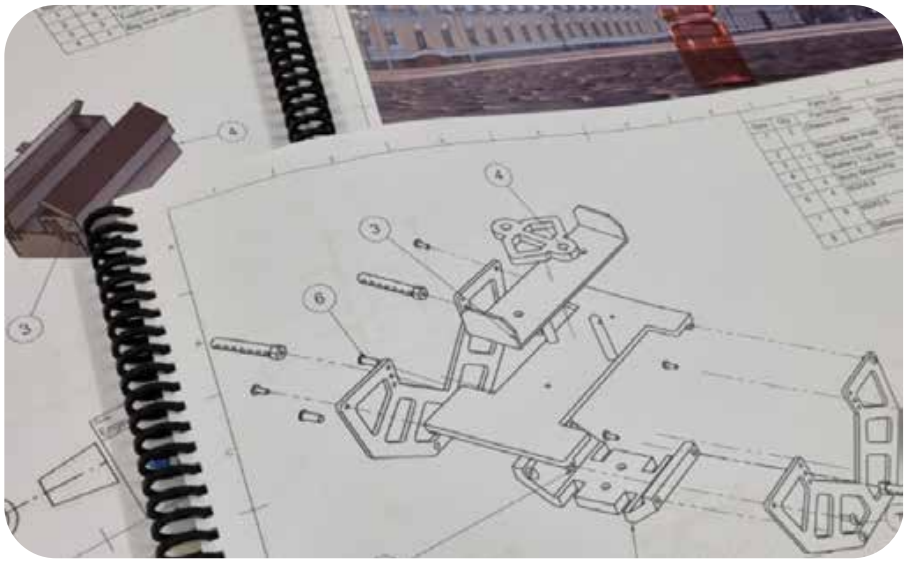
Design and Development for Engineering and Manufacture

WHAT WILL YOU LEARN?

YEAR 2 – OCCUPATIONAL SPECIALISM – CORE KNOWLEDGE

Learners will develop their knowledge and understanding of, and skills in:

- **Knowledge of design methodologies and processes.**
- **Knowledge of the tools, equipment and materials used in mechanical engineering**
- **Knowledge of mathematical theories and methods used in mechanical engineering**
- **Skills in producing mechanical drawings and representations**
- **Skills in designing and developing working models**
- **Skills in testing models and prototypes**



APPLICATION PROCESS

All applications to GPUTC should be made via our website - www.gputc.org

Use the QR code below to access the application form.

2026/27 Sixth Form Admissions Application

Remember that when you fill out the application to ensure the information given is accurate places are given provisionally based on the accuracy of the information given. If you have any questions about the admissions process, please contact our admissions team – admissions@gputc.org

APPLICATION KEY DATES

1st October 2025	Round 1 Admissions Open
12th December 2025	Round 1 Admissions Close
December 2025	Admissions Interviews start (weekday Interviews)
10th January 2026	Saturday Interview Day 09:00 – 13:00
12th January 2026	Round 2 Admissions Open
27th February 2026	Round 2 Admissions Close
March 2026	Round 2 Interviews (weekday Interviews)
TBC March 2026	Saturday Interview Day

Round 3 Application Process may open in April 2026
However this isn't guaranteed – Apply early to avoid disappointment

Other Key Dates for the Diary

21st October 2025	Sixth Form Open Evening
7th February 2026	Post 16 Open Morning
14th March 2026	T Level Taster Session 1 09:00 -13:00
20th June 2026 T	Level Taster Session 2 09:00 – 13:00
w/c 22nd June 2026	Post 16 Transition Day

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PETERBOROUGH
UTC

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