

19th September 2018

Dear Parent/Carer

**Alternative school options for current Year 9 students
(for Year 10 entry in September 2019)**

I am writing to you as our records indicate that your child currently attends a Warwickshire secondary school in Year 9. I would like to take this opportunity to inform you of some alternative schooling options in the local area which you may not be aware of, which you may wish to consider for when your child transfers to Year 10 in September 2019.

Please note: If you feel that your child's current school is the best option for them, and you wish for them to continue their education in Year 10 and Year 11 at that school, there is no obligation for your child to move school and you do not need to take any further action.

What are UTCs and Studio Schools?

University Technical Colleges (UTCs) are set up by universities and businesses and, usually, specialize in one or two technical subjects. However, at GCSE, they offer a similar curriculum to a typical secondary school, including English and Maths.

Studio schools are similar to UTCs, in that they have employer involvement in the curriculum and focus on developing skills needed for employment. This could include personal coaching and work experiences, alongside a similar curriculum to a typical 11-18 secondary school.

All schools, regardless of their status, have a statutory duty to secure impartial careers guidance for all students in years 8 - 13, in order to help inspire young people and to support them in trying to achieve their full potential. This is assisted by students being aware of all the opportunities available to them, so we advise that you encourage your child to seek further guidance from a Careers Adviser at their current school or college.

You may wish to look at these alternative school options further and consider whether your

child would like to apply for a place, to commence in September 2019. I would also recommend that you look at the GCSE curriculum at your child's current school, to help consider what the best option is for the next two years of your child's education.

Which UTC and Studio Schools are located within the local area?

These schools will admit students at a different age to normal secondary schools. Below you will find a list of schools which are located within close proximity to Warwickshire, which operate a 14-19 education programme.

School/College Name	Type of Establishment	Local Authority	Postcode	Contact details
WMG Academy for Young Engineers (Coventry)	University Technical College (UTC)	Coventry	CV4 8DY	T: 024 76464661 W: https://www.wmgacademy.org.uk/ E: info@wmgacademy.org.uk
WMG Academy for Young Engineers (Solihull)	University Technical College (UTC)	Solihull	B37 5FD	T: 0121 289 3556 W: https://solihull.wmgacademy.org.uk/ E: solihull.info@wmgacademy.org.uk
Waverley Studio College	Studio School	Birmingham	B9 5SX	T: 0121 566 6622 W: http://waverleystudiocollege.co.uk/ E: enquiry@waverleystudiocollege.co.uk
Silverstone UTC	University Technical College (UTC)	Northamptonshire	NN12 8TL	T: 01327 855010 W: https://www.utc-silverstone.co.uk/ E: info@utc-silverstone.co.uk
JCB Academy	University Technical College (UTC)	Staffordshire	ST14 5JX	T: 01889 506100 W: http://www.jcbacademy.com/
Derby Manufacturing UTC	University Technical College (UTC)	Derbyshire	DE24 8PU	T: 01332 477400 W: www.derbymanufacturingutc.co.uk/ E: office@derbymanufacturingutc.co.uk
Aston University Engineering Academy	University Technical College (UTC)	Birmingham	B7 4AG	T: 0121 380 0570 W: http://www.auea.co.uk/ E: enquiries@auea.co.uk
*Birmingham Ormiston Academy	Academy Sponsor Led	Birmingham	B4 7QD	T: 0121 359 9300 W: http://www.boa-academy.co.uk/ E: christopher.newbold@boa-academy.co.uk

**Please apply to this school directly*

You can also find a full list of these types of schools/colleges online:
www.utcolleges.org/utcs/

How do I apply for a UTC or Studio School for my child?

If you decide that you would like to apply for a place at any of the schools listed above, you will need to complete an application for your child. A copy is available for you to download from our website at: **www.warwickshire.gov.uk/admissions**

You should ensure that your completed application is sent back to Warwickshire Admissions Service by no later than the deadline as set by each establishment.

There is no online facility for you to apply for a Year 10 place at this time, and this

application process is only relevant to UTCs and Studio Colleges in the local area.

Please note: Warwickshire does not contain any UTCs or Studio Schools. The schools outlined in the table above are all located outside of Warwickshire. You may, therefore, need to consider **transport options** – and how your child would travel to and from these schools each day – before you decide whether to apply for a place at any of these schools.

Transport options

It is unlikely that you will receive any transport assistance – including a free bus pass – for your child, even if you have received this previously for another school. This is because transport assistance is only provided to the child's nearest school, and this is likely to be a Warwickshire secondary school – not a 14-19 UTC or Studio School - in most cases.

You may be able to pay for a seat on an existing Warwickshire school bus service for your child but there are costs associated with this, if an available service is running from September 2019.

Further information about transport options can be found on the website at: **www.warwickshire.gov.uk/schooltransport** or you can contact the team on: 01926 412929 – option 1, option 1 or email: educationtransport@warwickshire.gov.uk

Moving your child to a different school for Year 10, that is not a UTC or Studio School

If you wish to move your child to a different Warwickshire school in order for them to commence their education in Year 10, then you must follow the 'In-Year' admissions process, as outlined in our admission arrangements. This process – for Year 10 entry in September 2019 – will commence from Monday 3 June 2019. Further information about this process can be found online: **www.warwickshire.gov.uk/changingschool**

If you wish to move your child to a different school in another county, then you should contact the School Admissions Service within the county where the school is located to establish what their in-year admissions process is.

Yours sincerely



Amy Taylor
Lead Officer – Coordinated Admissions
School Admissions
Pupil and Student Services

Data Protection Policy

*In addition to processing your application for a school place, we may use your application information to co-operate with our partners in health and youth justice in order to improve the wellbeing of children in Warwickshire. This is required by the Children Act 2004, and is permitted by the Data Protection Act 1998. If you would like further information please visit our website: **www.warwickshire.gov.uk/privacy***