



## **Frequently Asked Questions**

### **1. Are we definitely going to have Year 7 students at UTCN?**

No. At this stage we are consulting with stakeholders to canvas their opinions. If we want to pursue taking Year 7s, we will need to apply to the Department for Education for approval. Only then will we be in a position to make a final decision.

### **2. Why are we considering taking Year 7 students?**

Increasingly, students joining us in Year 10 and 12 do not study Design Technology and Computing at KS3. This means that, every year, students are joining us with ever lower levels of skill. Taking students earlier would mean we would be able to design a varied and interesting STEM curriculum from Year 7 which would allow students to master these key skills effectively.

### **3. Where would Year 7 be based?**

Our ideal scenario is to set up a separate KS3 unit in a separate building, which is close to the UTC, and would house the same level of facilities. We are also looking at other options, including sites slightly further away from the UTC and remodelling our current building to accommodate KS3 students.

### **4. When would Year 7 join?**

The earliest that UTCN could admit Year 7 students would be September 2021. However, the first admission date and the actual number of students joining will be dependent on the results of the consultation, as well as the availability of a suitable site and finance. A separate consultation on Planned Admission Numbers (PAN) would also be undertaken.

### **5. How will this affect current students?**

As September 2021 is the very earliest that UTCN could take Year 7 students, most current students will be unaffected. At that date:

- All current Year 12 and 13 students will have left by July 2021.

- Current Year 11 students who progress with us to the Sixth Form could see the arrival of Year 7 students in September 2021 (at the earliest) when they would be in Year 13.
- Current Year 10 students who progress with us to the Sixth Form could see the arrival of Year 7 students in September 2021 (at the earliest) when they would be in Year 12.

However, our preference is for KS3 students to be accommodated in a separate building.

## **6. How will this benefit current students?**

Taking Year 7 students will have very little, if any, impact on current students. However, ultimately, it should secure the reputation of UTCN as being a first-class provider of the scientists, technology and engineering specialists of the future.