

UTC READING AWARDED THE NATIONAL QUALITY IN CAREERS STANDARD BY COMPLETE CAREERS-CAREER MARK, FOR A SECOND TIME

UTC Reading has been awarded the National Quality in Careers Standard by Complete Careers – Career Mark for the second time. Originally gaining the award in May 2018, UTC Reading has recently undergone revalidation of the award which recognises its continued effective delivery of Careers Education Information and Guidance.

UTC Reading has been a member of Complete Careers – Career Mark since early 2017, and since achieving the first award in 2018, has been working on improvements to develop the Career Provision at UTC Reading.

Stephanie Mitchell, Executive Director of Careers and Destinations, worked alongside members of the Careers team and Senior Leadership team to bring about changes to add to the positive careers experience students' get when coming to UTC Reading.

Despite the pandemic, the Career Mark assessor, said: "I was very impressed with the ongoing commitment of the UTC Reading to ensuring the Career Guidance programme and CEIAG remains central to its ethos despite the barriers created by the ongoing situation around Covid-19.

Stephanie worked to gather evidence for four assessment objectives which demonstrates the Careers provision across Management, Guidance, Information and Curriculum. A selection of UTC Reading students from across all four year groups, subjects and specialisms were assessed on learner outcomes for the award; they were interviewed by the assessor to validate the schools' evidence.

She added: "Learners are responding positively to the range of opportunities the UTC provides and are very positive about the range and variety of support they have received in the past and continue to receive.

"As they move through the college they are effectively supported to further investigate and challenge themselves, explore a range of learning pathways and successfully develop the skills, knowledge and attitudes to be effective career planners.



Stephanie Mitchell,
Executive Director of Careers and
Destinations at UTC Reading



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- Quote from report

“By the time they leave they have tested and developed their knowledge of and interest in the college’s specialist areas and have also had the opportunity to find out more about the world of work and the full range of opportunities available to them post 16 and 18.

“Learners develop self-awareness and self-development skills during their time at the UTC. They are given a wide range of opportunities and tools to explore the world of work and different learning pathways and work environments. They are supported to develop career management skills and are empowered to make well informed realistic decisions about their next steps.

“We are so proud that we have been able to achieve this award again which shows that we are making excellent progress against the Gatsby Benchmarks. UTC Reading has always been about ensuring our students are prepared for the world of work, so having external validation that we do just that is really fantastic.”

Jonathan Nicholls, UTC Reading Principal, said:

“We are incredibly proud to have been awarded the national Quality in Careers Standard by Complete Careers-Career Mark, again this year.

“Not only that, having been through this assessment two years ago, it is reassuring that through the assessment we have been able to demonstrate that we have further improved the quality and impact of the careers support that we provide our students, particularly during the challenges of the Covid pandemic.

“Within our vision of Transforming Lives Through Learning, we aim to prepare our young people for the world of work and ensure that they have a clear line of sight to their intended destination at either age 16 or 18. We have worked closely with our industry partners to ensure we understand the needs of industry now and in the future. In doing so we can guide our students effectively through the final four years of their education at school age and onto those first steps in successful careers.”



UTC Reading Careers hub

