

Uppingham Community College



Annual Review 2011-12

Uppingham Community College

A Specialist Technology Academy

Annual Review 2011-2012

Welcome to this annual review for the 17 months which ended on 31 August 2012 – our first review following conversion to Academy status in 2011.

This review provides highlights of the school's performance and the achievements of our students. The full statutory annual report, which contains detailed information on governance, accounting policies and financial reports, and the report of the auditor, is available [here](#).

Objectives and Activities

We are very proud of our College's history and heritage, yet we recognise that we live and work in a modern, technological society. We believe strongly in a comprehensive ethos; promoting equal opportunities for all with a clear focus on the individual – recognising achievement and celebrating



success. Independence of thought and creativity are encouraged, thus valuing initiative and enterprise. We have an established ethos of mutual respect between all members of the school community and maintain high expectations of conduct and behaviour.

We are committed to the highest standards of education for all our students and have invested in staff, facilities and resources to ensure that they acquire the high level of skills needed to be successful in an increasingly technological world.

We offer a broad and balanced curriculum which meets the needs of each individual and use a variety of learning styles to enable them to acquire the

knowledge, skills and understanding which will allow them to develop into the citizens of tomorrow.

Uppingham Community College puts the student at the heart of everything we do. We provide a well-rounded, holistic and happy environment in which they prosper and thrive.

Our mission is:

- To create a happy, secure and stimulating environment in which the needs of all members of the College community are met, potential and capabilities being recognised and developed to the full
- To provide an innovative and varied education, which encourages all students to be well motivated and independent learners
- To promote excellence in learning and teaching with all staff and students working together to support enjoyment and success in lifelong learning
- To create an ethos of mutual respect in which all people are valued equally
- To equip students with the skills and values to be responsible citizens of the future.

At Uppingham Community College we believe in:

- Mutual respect between all members of the College community
- Celebrating success
- Clear, consistent and appropriate strategies to promote positive behaviour
- Appreciation of diversity and individuality
- Well motivated, ambitious and independent learners
- Social, moral and environmental responsibility

Our key objectives are to develop excellence and innovation across the College, to ensure that:

- All students are empowered to reach their potential
- The curriculum provides breadth, balance and opportunity



- Excellent practice in teaching and learning is widespread
- Staff CPD (Continuing Professional Development) develops and supports capacity
- Enhanced accommodation, access and resources provides optimum learning opportunities
- The College specialism is embedded in all areas.

Therefore, our key foci in 2011 -12 to ensure the achievement of these aims were:

- To be in the top 25% of 'similar' schools for achievement and attainment
- Each member of the college community to have an Individual Learning Plan
- A vision and development plan for a 21st century UCC site
- A range of high quality and meaningful partnerships which will enhance opportunities for all students.

The College's Achievements and Performance

GCSE Results 2012

We were delighted with the exceptional achievements of our students in their GCSE examination results. Grades were up again in many areas with significant successes for a number of individual students and we remain above the national average in all measures and in all subjects.

We are also committed to maintaining a curriculum wherein the majority of our students follow an academic route of gold standard GCSE courses to ensure their progression post 16 and also post 18. We do not believe in including unnecessary qualifications that students neither need nor want just to inflate league table figures.

This is borne out by our English Baccalaureate score of 33%, which is significantly above the national average, and that 84% of Year 11 gained five or more A*-C grade GCSEs.

Three students gained a full house with 11 A*/A grades and 11 students each gained an impressive 10 or more A/A*s. More than 42% students gained three or more A/A* grades and an outstanding 56% gained at least one A*/A grade.

100% of the students who took vocational courses on day release at local colleges passed their examinations. These students had personalised programmes of study to create a more appropriate curriculum.



(30% in 2011)

The benchmark measures are:

- 5 A*-C: 84% (81% in 2011)
- 5 A*-C including English & Maths: 61% (60% in 2011)
- English Baccalaureate 33%

Attendance at the College was maintained at a high level of 95%.

The rate of unauthorised absence was 4.34% (4.80% in 2010-11)

The rate of unauthorised absence was 0.60% (0.30% in 2010-11)

Numbers on roll – 873 [870 in 2010-2011)

Permanent Exclusions – 1 [0 in 2010-2011]

Mid-year intake – 19 [26 in 2010-2011]

Year 7 intake – 148 [167 in 2010-2011].

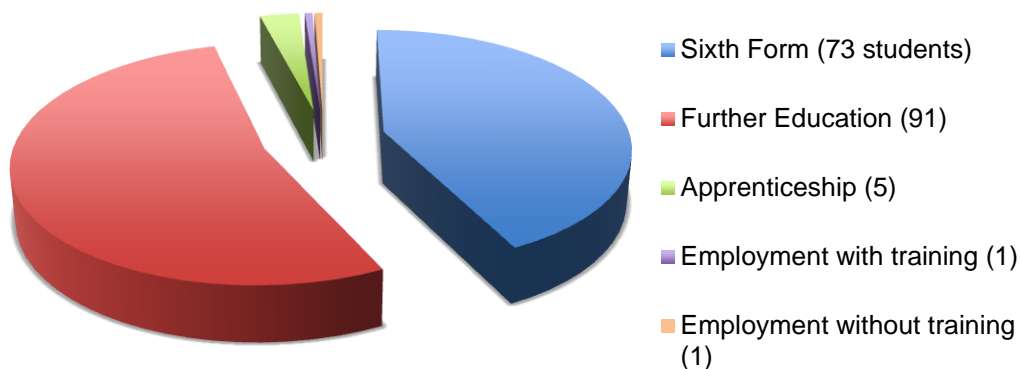
This was due to the much lower number of students in Year 6 in all our feeder primary schools. This number is due to rise from 2014 onwards.

Students from a total of 29 primary schools joined us in Year 7.

Staff turnover – This is a relatively low as we have a very stable staff. Six staff left at the end of 2011 and we replaced these with five experienced colleagues and one newly qualified teacher.

Destination of Year 11 students in 2011

Where do our students go when they leave?



Achieving our aims

Our aims for 2011-12 have been achieved in the following ways:

Each member of the College community to have an Individual Learning Plan

We have a provision map in place which shows the intervention that each student receives and who the key worker is. We have also created a flight path of achievement for each student to ensure that they can reach their potential. Each member of staff has a clear training programme for the year and all CPD is linked to the new appraisal structure.

A vision and development plan for a 21st Century UCC site

The 'Future Vision' for the development of the site has been created and communicated through working groups of Staff, Governors, students and parents. It is available for all stakeholders to view on the website and plans are in place for the first stage of that development to be realised. However, any significant moves forward are dependent upon the College securing the funding to make the desired changes.

A range of high quality and meaningful partnerships enhancing opportunities for all students

Uppingham Community College is a founder member of the Midshires

Partnership. The partnership was created in 2012 to provide a collaborative resource and development group, which will build on our existing strengths as a family of schools and develop our secondary and primary school links as a cohesive educational community. The Midshires Partnership currently comprises Uppingham Community College and the primary schools of Bringhurst, Cottingham, Edith Weston, Hallaton, Langham, Leighfield, Oakham CofE, St Mary & St John CofE, Tugby, Uppingham CofE.

The Midshires Partnership's mission is to fulfil our professional duty and moral imperative to work for the success of every student, in every school, in the partnership. Our Vision is quality-first teaching and learning for all the children, in order that they realise their potential.

We have also made a number of sporting partnerships to increase the provision for our students. These include:

- Oakham Rugby Club
- Uppingham Colts Football Club
- Uppingham Town Cricket Club
- Leicestershire Cricket Club
- Rutland Rockets Netball
- R2R Tennis / Oakham Tennis
- Rutland County Golf
- Frisby Fencers
- Rutland Hockey Club
- Rutland Handball Club
- Velo Club Rutland
- Rutland Athletics Club
- Vale Judo Club

We also have a partnership arrangement with the Pauline Quirke Performing Arts Academy and we are the lead school for the Rutland Music Education Hub.



The College is a lead school within the SSAT structure and the Principal is the Chair of the East Midlands Headteacher Steering Group. The College is a centre of excellence for Design Technology and hosts training visits for

schools from around the country. The Lead Practitioner in IT is an ambassador for Microsoft and leads sessions online and at training events. He will be presenting at the BETT show in 2013.

We are in the process of becoming a training hub with the Nottingham Training School based at Cotgrave. This will involve the delivery of modules for teachers enrolled on Leading From the Middle and Leadership Pathway programmes.



Our partnership with the University of Leicester is particularly strong in the science department as we regularly host sessions with lecturers. We also hosted a Science Fair for Gifted and Talented scientists from the East Midlands. We also have a partnership with the University's Faculty of Education Management. The professors act as mentors to our Year 11 students who are completing the Higher level Project.

Our International School status is now in its 10th year and we are now supporting other schools who are applying for this. We have formal links with Belgium, Germany, Spain, France and China and are now about to extend this to the Middle East through a partnership with a school in Dubai.

Student Achievements

This section highlights some of the successes and the events in which students from this College have participated over the last year.

Performing Arts

The Arts continue to flourish in the College with many opportunities to become involved. Our students worked with theatre and dance companies and a university, including successfully auditioning for public performances.

In music, the 30-strong Concert Band and other musical groups have enhanced the College's excellent reputation with performances that included



the Queen's Jubilee Picnic at Burghley House – the only state school to be selected.

A UCC student was the Rutland representative at the Commonwealth Carnival of Music and played at Parliament's Westminster Hall. The College again hosted a Music Festival for 150 children from all the primary schools in the area.

Academic

The College continued to bring in experts from various fields to stimulate students' knowledge – visitors included nanotechnologists, rocket scientists, archaeologists and a Michelin starred chef.

As part of the 2012 Cultural Olympiad 16 students were shortlisted in a poetry competition, with a UCC competitor winning. Another student was runner-up for the History Academy Excellence Award staged at the University of Nottingham.

Also at the University of Nottingham, 23 students showcased projects at the 'Big Bang' Science Fair. A UCC team progressed to the National Finals. Four



girls attended the Extreme Physics event at Rugby School and were highly commended.

Our 117 best mathematicians in Years 9, 10 and 11 took part in the UKMT Intermediate Maths Challenge, 27 achieving a Bronze,

Silver or Gold Certificate. Years 7 and 8 achieved 42 certificates in the Junior Maths Challenge.

The College has been an International School for more than 10 years and has been re-accredited for the award with very positive feedback. Activities include the European Day of Languages and study visits and exchanges to France, Germany and Spain. The Connecting Classrooms Project led to the visit of headteachers from China to build upon the links begun in 2010/2011.

Sport

In the year of the 2012 London games two members of the school community were torchbearers in the Olympic Torch Relay and a College student was selected to swim at the International Children's Games in South Korea. One student was selected for the Scottish Cerebral Palsy Football Squad.

UCC teams took part in many matches and championships in a wide range of sports including football, rugby, basketball, badminton, netball, tennis, cricket, Sports Hall Athletics and hockey.

The College won the Triangular Cross Country and Athletics Competitions with many of our students subsequently competing in the County Athletics Championships held at Saffron Lane in Leicester, winning a silver and two bronze medals.



In football, Year 9 and Year 10 boys were winners in the Melton and Rutland League. In the same league Year 8 girls won the hockey competition. A thriving equestrian team competes at events across the country with great success. The UCC dance students again took part in the Rutland Spotlight on Dance held in Uppingham.

The College's Rutland Racing team took part in the Greenpower Formula 24 electric car racing event at Rockingham were awarded the 'Spirit of Greenpower' trophy.



The climbing wall in the Sports Hall saw a number of students gain NICAS (indoor Climbing) Awards, four at Level 1 and three at Level 2.

Activity trip destinations included Aberglaslyn Outdoor Adventure, the High Adventure outdoor centre in Wales and skiing in Italy. The Don Bosco Sporting Exchange celebrated 40 years and continues to thrive.

The Duke of Edinburgh's Award Scheme is now accessible to more students and is becoming increasingly popular.

Many Year 10 students continue to develop their organisation, communication and leadership skills by working towards the Junior Sports Leaders UK Level 1 Award. A number of girls achieved the Dance Leaders Award.

Charity

The College continues to be involved in many charity events including Children in Need, Comic Relief, The Mamelodi Trust, Jeans for Genes and Lincolnshire and Rutland Air Ambulance. More than £3,000 was donated. Our students embrace many good causes, including epilepsy, prostate cancer, Help for Heroes, Stardust Foundation, Matt Hampson and Water Aid.

The College continued to build upon the successful introduction of the new house system and further developed the Student Council and other Student Voice activities. The House Captains are encouraged to be proactive in fostering the House ethos including competitions and raising money for the House charities.

