

UCC EXCELLENCE PATHWAY NEWSLETTER



Spring term updates



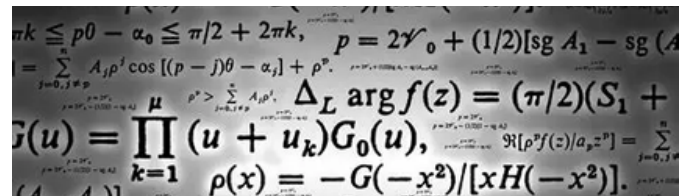
Year 7 Excellence Pathway

This half term we have launched our Excellence Pathway with Year 7 students. Baseline assessments have identified our more able students across a range of subjects, and the pathway aims to continue to challenge, stretch, and support these pupils to achieve their full potential. Through targeted enrichment activities, high-quality teaching, and opportunities for deeper learning, students are encouraged to develop independence, resilience, and a love of learning. We look forward to sharing updates on events and progress as the programme develops.

Upcoming Events at UCC

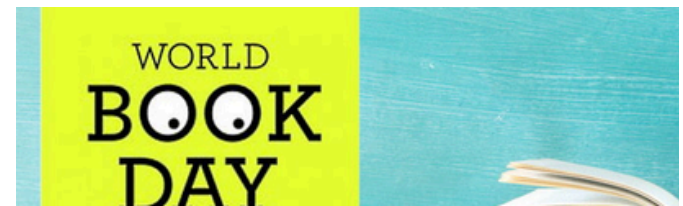
KS3 E-Sports Tournament

Get ready to race! Students in Years 7-9 are invited to take part in an exciting Mario Kart House Competition, hosted in the Drama Studio. Each year group will be released from lessons for one period to compete and support their house. The competition will run in a fast-paced league and playoff format, ensuring action-packed racing within the hour. With trophies up for grabs and the overall House Champion revealed in the Success Assembly, it's a fantastic opportunity for students to represent their house, show teamwork and enjoy some friendly competition. Taking place on 20th March 2026.



Maths Factor

The annual Maths Factor Inter-House Competition will take place before the Easter holiday, bringing together talented mathematicians from Years 7-9 to represent their houses. Teams will compete in a series of fast-paced and challenging rounds, including problem-solving tasks, Countdown-style number conundrums and an exciting buzzer round. With teamwork, quick thinking and mathematical flair at the heart of the competition, it promises to be an engaging and competitive event. We look forward to celebrating the efforts and achievements of all students who take part.



World Book Day

We are looking forward to celebrating World Book Day with a range of exciting activities across the school. Students will take part in special assemblies, themed lessons, book-related quizzes, and are encouraged to dress up as their favourite book characters. These events aim to promote a love of reading and bring stories to life in a fun and engaging way. We look forward to seeing our school community get involved and celebrate books together.

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UCC Excellence Pathway – Information for Parents

How to use this booklet

Use this handbook to record and collect stamps for your participation in extra-curricular and extension activities. Each time you take part in an approved activity, ask for a stamp to be added as evidence of your learning and skill development. We will meet once every half term to share progress, showcase new skills, and celebrate achievements as you work your way through the UCC Excellence Pathway. Badges for bronze, silver and gold participation is outlined below.



Bronze – 5–7 stamps
Consistent participation

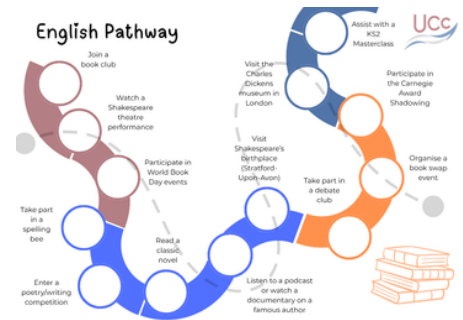
Silver – 10–14 stamps
Broader skills and regular engagement

Recording reflections

Completing your reflection pages is an important part of the pathway. Recording clear details of your activities and the dates they took place helps evidence your participation, track your progress, and recognise the skills you are developing over time. These reflections support award decisions, prepare you for half-termly showcases, and provide valuable examples you can use for applications, interviews, and future opportunities.



English Pathway



The Excellence Pathway is designed to encourage students to extend their learning beyond the classroom by taking part in extra-curricular and enrichment activities.

Students record their participation and reflect on the skills they develop in a dedicated handbook. Progress is reviewed through half-termly meetings where students showcase new skills and achievements. The pathway promotes confidence, independence, and employability skills, and recognises commitment through Bronze, Silver, and Gold participation awards.

Students taking part in the Excellence Pathway attend a half-termly meeting to review their progress, reflect on achievements, and share the skills they have developed. These sessions also provide opportunities to hear from guest speakers, explore pathways into further study and careers, and learn from the experiences of others in the programme.

How can parents support?

- ✓ Encourage your child to take part in extra-curricular and extension activities
 - ✓ Remind them to record activities and dates in their handbook
 - ✓ Talk with them about new skills they are developing
 - ✓ Support attendance at half-termly pathway meetings
- ✓ Celebrate progress and achievements at Bronze, Silver, and Gold levels

Contact: excellence@ucc.rutland.sch.uk