



# UCS Newsletter

Summer Term 1, 2022



## PRINCIPAL'S WELCOME



School has been full of new life this last term – some of which you will read about in this edition – with our biggest numbers of students (and chickens!) ever on site! I am delighted to confirm that since our last newsletter we have had record numbers of new students and staff applying to join us. We look forward to welcoming our wonderful new Year 7 students for their transition days in June, in anticipation for them joining us in September. We have also expanded our fabulous staff body with some exciting appointments that will grow our subject provisions and provide outstanding support to our rapidly-expanding student body. We have agreed, following consultation with the Local Authority, to take in-excess of our usual allocation of students for September, with a record 135 students starting in Year 7, having had nearly 200 applications for the 125 places. I look forward to speaking to you soon in more detail about our building and design plans for the expansion of the school site which have reached an exciting stage in the last month. Any students or parents wanting to know more can contact Reception to arrange a 1:1 tour of the site with Mr Whiting in anticipation of the breaking news. We have also said fond farewells to a small number of staff who have gone on to secure promotion – we wish Mr Pye and Mr Morley good luck in their new roles.

We continue to embed Century Tech into our core subject offer, and in the spring term we achieved the outstanding feat of being the number one user of the platform on the planet! The platform continues to provide bespoke learning opportunities to support student growth inside and out of the classroom. Thank you to all of our parents and guardians for your continued support, encouraging your children to develop their knowledge, skills and concepts independently using their iPad devices. As always, thank you for your support of the school... By working closely with you and all of our key stakeholders, we are helping to secure the very best futures for all of our students. In such a challenging year, that is something to be very proud of.

**MR G WHITING**

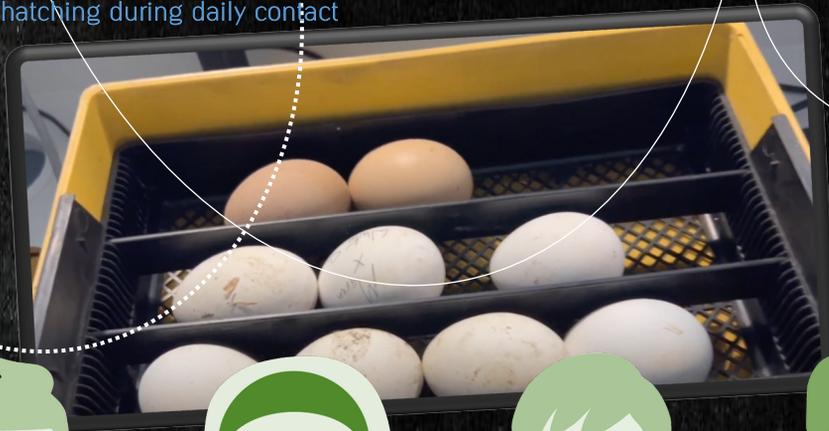
## Mock Results Day 2022

Our Year 11 students had an afternoon to celebrate, reflect and plan on 14<sup>th</sup> March. Students received their mock GCSE results and each person had a personalised coaching session with a Senior Leader from the UCS, aimed not only at ensuring that they are on track to reach their academic and personal goals for summer examinations, but also to receive information, advice and guidance on post-16 options from both The UCS and Bolton Connexions (careers provision) staff. All students had access to bespoke apprenticeship options through Mr Dickson's network of UTC-linked providers, and through Bolton's Connexions Apprenticeship provision.



# Egg-citing Times in Science!

Egg-citing times at UCS Bolton! We are egg-static to have incubated and hatched 6 chicken eggs in the science department. This Project Based Learning built on initial learning as part of the British Science week theme of 'growth'. A live stream was in place for our own students and those in our feeder Primary schools to watch the developments and hatching during daily contact



## Aspiring Professionals

Well done to four of our Sixth Form students, Areeba, Joel, Saahil and Siraj who have secured places on the Social Mobility Foundation Aspiring Professionals Programme. This is a fantastic opportunity for peer mentoring and professional support for aspiring medical students and will really set them apart from other applicants when applying to universities.

## RSE Drop Down Day . . .

On 8th March 2022 The UCS hosted its first RSE Drop Down Day, targeting areas of our RSE provision that we felt needed to be prioritised for our school demographic following our audit of RSE provision, these included:

- Consent
- Sexual Harassment
- Sexual Health
- Drugs and Alcohol
- Domestic Violence
- Adoption and Fostering

We worked with a variety of local agencies and employers to ensure that our provision was tailored to the specific needs of our student body. These included Greater Manchester Police, Fort Alice, The NHS, AdoptionNow and Parallel. Feedback from students and staff has been overwhelmingly positive and students are now more aware of key information, and local pathways and options that will be open to them in the future if they are required.



