

Handbook 2025-26

Principal's Welcome

Welcome to the North East Futures UTC Handbook for 2025-26. I am delighted to welcome you to our UTC, and I hope this Handbook provides the essential information you need as students, carers and parents. We are incredibly proud of our 2025 Ofsted "Good" outcome, a testament to the hard work and dedication of our entire community and reflecting continuous improvements in student achievement.

Our UTC specialises in Digital and Health Science, offering excellent career opportunities for young people in the North East. Through our unique UTC Futures programme, we provide regular employer engagement opportunities to support your child's future.

Our commitment to careers education ensures all our students achieve excellent destinations after completing their programme of study at the UTC, whether progressing to top universities or securing highly competitive apprenticeships. A critical factor in achieving these positive outcomes is consistent attendance; we expect all students to maintain 95%+ attendance, as we know this leads to student success and future opportunities.

We look forward to a productive and successful academic year and thank you for choosing North East Futures UTC.

Dan Sydes
Principal

Vision

To be the leading Digital and Health Science UTC, where all students:

- Receive high-quality education and leading employer engagement.
- Attend regularly and achieve excellent academic and technical outcomes.
- Develop high-standard, work-ready skills.
- Progress to ambitious destinations in the Digital and Health Science sectors, supporting regional economic growth.

Values



Attendance

Consistent attendance at UTC is crucial for student success at the UTC, with students who have 95%+ attendance achieving the best outcomes. We collaborate with parents to ensure all students can reach this attendance target. Term-time holidays are prohibited, and unauthorised absences will be challenged, including through referrals to the Local Authority for persistent absence. Attendance is monitored daily, with only unavoidable absences authorised. Excellent and improving attendance is acknowledged and celebrated every week at the UTC.

Code of Conduct

We expect all students to consistently demonstrate the UTC values of Communication, Professionalism and Resilience

Students must:

- Arrive at the UTC by 8:55 and attend all lessons on time
- Dress as per the Dress Code and arrive at the UTC with the correct equipment:
 - ★ Pens - black, green, purple
 - ★ Chromebook (*provided by the UTC*) – fully charged
 - ★ Ruler, pencil
 - ★ Scientific Calculator
- Follow the Acceptable Use Agreement including safe and use Chromebook professionally for learning
- lock mobile phones and headphones in lockers throughout the UTC day

Students must never:

- Bring vapes, alcohol, cigarettes, drugs or illegal substances on site and never attend the UTC under the influence.
- Bring blades, firearms or any other items that could be used as a weapon on site
- Engage in harassment, abuse of any kind, violence or bullying of any type

Students who do not follow the Code of Conduct are subject to the Behaviour Strategy and the Exclusions Policy

The Code of Conduct is signed by Parent or Carer and Student before joining the UTC to show understanding and agreement of the expectations.

Student Dress Code

We expect all students to dress professionally ready for the world of work

Dress Code	Not Permitted	Health & Fitness Day
• Plain smart Top such as a shirt or UTC Hoodie • Smart plain professional trousers, skirts or dresses • Smart shoes or plain black trainers • UTC Lanyard (<i>provided by UTC</i>)	• Headphones or earbuds • T Shirts • Large brands or logos • Coats and outdoor jackets • Non-UTC Hoodies • Sports leggings • Jeans • Casual shoes	• Navy blue top (<i>such as the UTC Hoodie</i>) • Jogging Bottoms/leggings/shorts • Trainers
In the Science Lab during certain experiments students are expected to wear lab coats, goggles, tie back long hair, wear appropriate footwear and remove loose Jewellery.		

Students who do not follow the dress code expectations will be given a consequence as per the behaviour strategy of the UTC.

A hardship fund is available where parents/carers are struggling with affordability – please contact the UTC for further support - office@nef.tynecoast.academy

The Dress Code is signed by Parent or Carer and Student before joining the UTC to show understanding and agreement of the expectations.

Acceptable Use Agreement

We expect all students to use technology safely and professionally at all times

Students must:

- Treat their Chromebook with professional care and respect.
Any wilful or careless damage to a student's Chromebook will result in an invoice being issued for repair or replacement
- Keep mobile phones and headphones/earbuds in a locker throughout the day.
- Use AI tools only to support learning
- Use their UTC email address to communicate regarding UTC matters
- Use Social Media safely and professionally. *Any targeted online behaviour at any time will be dealt with through the Anti-Bullying Policy*
- Report any unsafe behaviour such as unsafe use of social media, sharing of indecent images or vandalism to a member of UTC staff
- Never target anyone online. This includes:
 - Never posting personal comments about others
 - Never share images or videos of others
 - Never share private or explicit material of yourself or others
 - Never illegally download or distribute copyrighted material such as software or media via the North East Futures UTC network
- Follow the TCAT Acceptable Usage Agreement

The Acceptable Use Agreement is signed by Parent or Carer and Student before joining the UTC to show understanding and agreement of the expectations.

British Values

The UTC will uphold and promote British Values:

- Democracy
- The rule of law
- Individual liberty
- Mutual respect and tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs and for those without a religious faith

Safeguarding

All UTC staff are safeguarding trained. Parents and students can report any child protection or safeguarding concerns to any member of staff.

Contacts		
Role	Name	Contact details
Designated Safeguarding Leads	Steve Goad, Dan Sydes, Jade Hutchinson, Kelly Davies, Karen Nixon	Steve.Goad@nef.tynecoast.academy Dan.Sydes@nef.tynecoast.academy 0191 9179888
Nominated Local Governor for and safeguarding and child protection	Derek Marshall	derek.marshall@nef.tynecoast.academy
Children's Social Care – for reporting concerns – Single Point of Contact	Working hours Hours	IRSADMIN@newcastle.gov.uk 0191 277 2500
	Out of Hours	edt@newcastle.gov.uk 0191 278 78 78
Children's social care		Newcastle Tel: 0191 277 2500 Gateshead 0191 433 2653 Durham 03000 267 979 Sunderland 0191 561 707 Northumberland 01670 536 400
16+ care		0191 278 2700
Children with Disabilities		0191 277 4700

Government guidance -

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/media/686b94eefe1a249e937cbd2d/Keeping_children_safe_in_education_2025.pdf

If you have any safeguarding concerns, please contact the Designated Safeguarding Leads.

Assessments

Each student experiences regular assessment in all subjects to ensure that teaching is tailored to the individual. This includes:

- In class live marking,
- Questions to check for understanding,
- Recall tasks at the start of every lesson which cover what your child is learning over time,
- Independent practice tasks in most lessons to consolidate learning.
- Regular topic assessments with personalised feedback to improve the learner, named Purple Zone.
- Summative Assessments to assess retention of learning over time and adjust predictions.

Students will receive a report with predicted and effort grades in each subject they study and mock grades where applicable.

Students should revise for these as all Summative Assessments as they will assess work taught up to that point.

Independent Learning

We expect students to develop their independence and resilience while at the UTC to prepare them appropriately for their next steps, whether that is joining the world of work or continuing in further study.

Students are expected to complete weekly independent learning assignments in all subjects; that may take the form of Seneca assignments to revise and consolidate content, completion of coursework tasks where appropriate to a subject, wider reading through Seneca assignments, or more directed revision activities shared with students via Google Classroom.

Students are welcome to use the Learning Resource Centre (LRC) before and after lessons if they would like a quiet space to work in until 4pm each day. Students have access to a printer and to various resources that will help them in their study.

Parents will receive emails when a student has not completed their independent learning in a subject and we would appreciate support to ensure that students do not miss multiple assignments.