



From Police Station to University College

Another step to opening the doors to students has been taken by the proposed new University Technical College.

South Wiltshire University Technical College (UTC) has planning permission for redevelopment of the current Salisbury Police Station site. Wiltshire Council granted permission, subject to more work on its plans to manage travel flows and parking around the site.

The new academy for 114 to 18-year-olds, has appointed of its first Principal. Gordon Aitken, leader of the project for more than a year as Project Manager, is Principal Designate.

The UTC is due to open on the Wilton Road site in September, 2015, after refurbishment of the Police station funded by the Government.

A specialist Science and Engineering Academy for up to 600 students in 2015, it is in partnership with the University of Southampton, Army, Wiltshire Council, Wiltshire College, and leading local Science and Engineering employers.

Mr Aitken taught in schools, a sixth Form College and a further education college before becoming an education consultant working for Government agencies, local authorities, schools and colleges across the UK. His first act as Principal Designate was to issue an open invitation to parents across the area to meet him for one-to-one discussions in Salisbury.

He said: "Our first students, currently in Year 8 and Year 10. Join a new institution – a big decision – and I am inviting parents of pupils in Year 10, or below, to meet me during half-term and learn more about our plans."

Wiltshire Police leave the building in July. New build adds community facilities, including a public café, lecture theatre and seminar/meetings suite.

The UTC opens in September 2015, with up to 104 Year 10s and 136 Year 12s.

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