# Enhancing learning with RESILIENCE

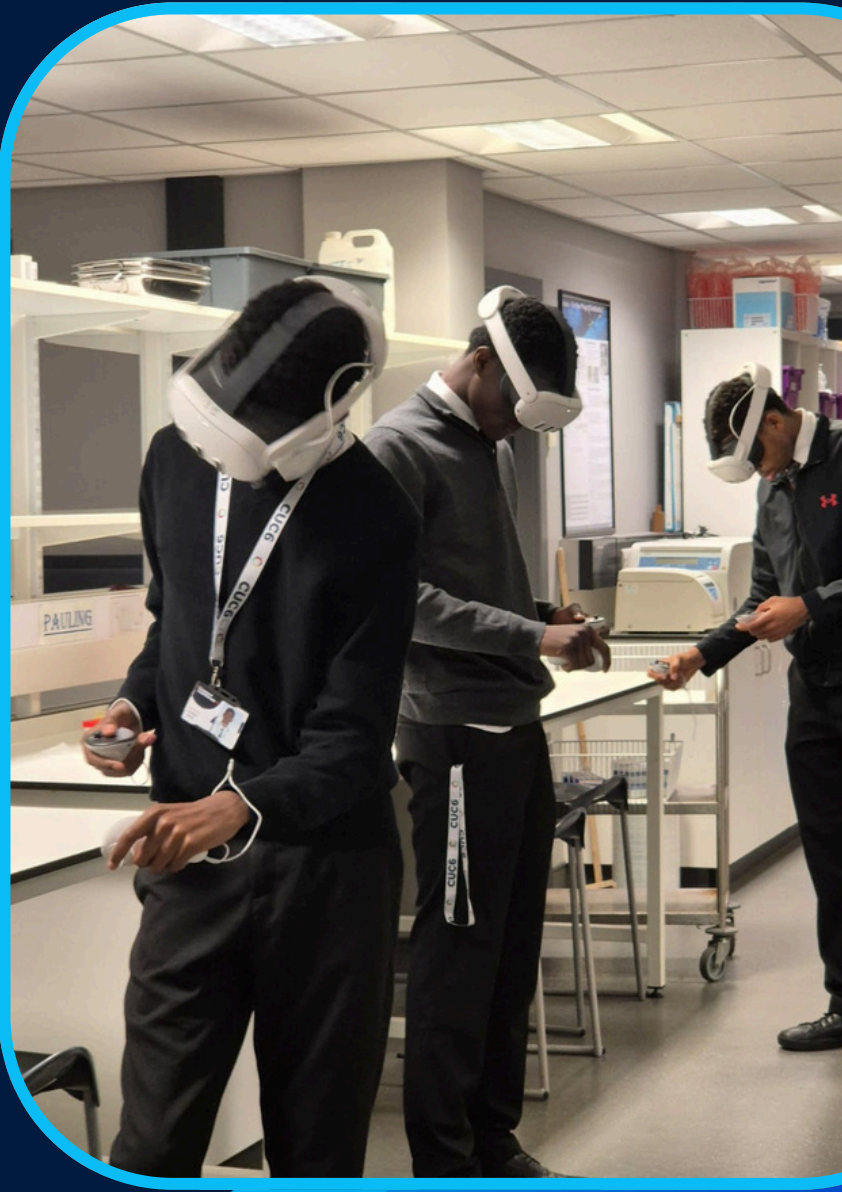
## A case study with Liverpool Life Sciences UTC

RESILIENCE
UK Medicines Manufacturing Skills Centre of Excellence

## Who are Liverpool Life Sciences UTC?

Liverpool Life Sciences University Technical College (UTC) are the first school in the UK to specialise in science and health care for students aged 14 to 19. They are co-located with The Studio School. The Studio School educates young people for success in a digital world, particularly for employment, entrepreneurship, a new business venture, or further study in the digital media and technology sectors. These are separate schools who share the same ethos, strong links with local employers and universities and a commitment to develop the technical and transferable skills of students for careers in focus areas linked to growth in the local economy.

Liverpool Life Sciences UTC combines outstanding academic education with specialist vocational qualifications and range of amazing facilities including lab spaces, a mock hospital suite, an engineering room, and many fantastic industry relevant learning spaces, to prepare their students for the world of work. Being part of the Northern Schools Trust, the UTC is recognised as a flagship and has strong employer links within the local community.




## Our Experience of RESILIENCE

John Dyer, Project Based Learning and Innovation Lead, at Liverpool Life Sciences UTC, shares his experience of RESILIENCE and how he intends to use the benefits of enhanced membership to expand the UTC's education even further.

On becoming a member, the RESILIENCE team visited John on site and spent a day to demo the Virtual Reality (VR) options. John spent some time afterwards trialling this with year 10 to 13 students. The feedback from the students was phenomenal. John explained **"they loved it. They preferred the more complex modules which surprised me. They were even able to design and plan their own methods. It generated a lot of excitement, questions and learning!."**

Following the trial, John decided to introduce the VR modules into the UTC's curriculum noting that...

> **"it worked so well I decided to change our plans for years 10 to 11 from September this year. There are off the shelf modules and an option where you can design your own experience (using Fourplus Eclipse). Students now have the option to choose laboratory skills within their curriculum using the VR. I redesigned the plans in a way that they undertook practical lab skills using the UTC's facilities in week one and then completed lab skills within an immersive professional industry environment using the VR. It has opened up so many ways to bring the curriculum to life."**

Following this, John arranged for the RESILIENCE team to co-deliver the ‘Workplace Accelerator’ with year 12 students onsite. This is a five-day programme that enhanced members can deliver themselves. However, RESILIENCE offers the option to co-deliver this when delivering this for the first time. The programme combined interactive lectures, practical workshops, and immersive VR sessions using FourPlus Immersive (technical training) and Bodyswaps (soft skills training) software to create a transformative learning experience. John informed us that he intends to use the Workforce Accelerator content within his existing curriculum, breaking this into 2-hour chunks throughout a 20-week programme, and also offer this as a week-long option, noting that **“it is designed in a really simple way that you can plan either option to deliver it.”** Read the RESILIENCE full blog on the Liverpool Life Sciences UTC Workforce Accelerator delivery.

John explained that **“we are intending to roll out the VR across other pathways, such as digital, medicine, healthcare, and veterinary studies, due to the transferable skills. The Bodyswaps content in particular can be used across any pathways because the professional soft skills would suit any occupation.”**

When exploring the future use of the enhanced membership benefits, John advised **“c.100 students have used the VR already since September (in just under two months). There is a negative implication as a result… that students now ask to use the VR in every lesson. However, this is a good problem to have.”**

For others who are considering RESILIENCE enhanced membership but thinking that there may be barriers to this, John expressed that

> **“it really can transform the way you deliver science to your students. It opens up ideas of the careers available to the point where our students where excited about careers in Quality Control! It is very simple to get involved and the help on hand from the RESILIENCE team is amazing. It was way easier than I thought it was going to be. A lot of students have now noticed the transformative learning experiences available and are keen to find out more. Even other course leads and science teachers have asked if they can use it!”**

## Interested in becoming an enhanced member?

- Sign up to our free standard membership
- Contact us to arrange a VR demo with your local partner. You can come onsite to us, or we can travel to you. Email us at: resilience-skills@contacts.bham.ac.uk.
- If you wish to sign up, your local partner will work with you to complete the membership paperwork.
- You will then receive your VR headsets, FourPlus Immersive and Bodyswaps licences and be given training in how to use these.
- If you are interested in the Workplace Accelerator programme(s), we will work with you to co-deliver the first cohort. You will then feel comfortable to roll this out yourself!