

## UK'S LATEST INTERNATIONAL AIR & SPACE INSTITUTE TO OPEN AT LONDON CITY AIRPORT



Dear Stakeholders (Learners, Parents/Carers, Apprentices, Employers, Staff, Directors and Partners)

I am pleased to announce a brand new partnership between LDE UTC, IASTI, Embraer and London City Airport with the launch of London City International Air and Space Training Institute.

London City Airport will provide the backdrop for the country's latest International Air and Space Institute (IASTI) to train the next generation of pilots, future astronauts, engineers and ground staff.

IASTI® London City, only the second one to be announced in the UK, is in partnership with London Design & Engineering University Technical College (LDE-UTC), London City Airport and Brazilian aircraft manufacturer Embraer S.A.

Along with IASTI® Newark in Nottinghamshire, it will **welcome the first intake of students in September this year**, in a first-of-its-kind education and skills collaboration, backed by air and space industry partners.

IASTI® London City will be based at LDE-UTC in Newham, just across the runway from City Airport. The unique partnership between IASTI Ltd, Embraer, London City Airport and LDE UTC will provide industry led education pathways for young people from the age of 16.

**Shireen Ali-Khan, Associate Director IASTI London City**, said: *"The pandemic has created a serious shortfall in the number of aviation professionals being trained. But aviation is ready to take off again and we need to make sure the next generation is ready to step into these roles within the industry. "It goes much further into the future as more astronauts are required, and the pilot pathways provide the basis for any future space training. This is about forward thinking and planning and making sure talented students don't slip through the net because they believe this type of education and training is out of their financial and social reach."*

**Ayslan Anholon, Head of Flight Operations & Training, Embraer Services & Support**, said: *"We are glad to partner with IASTI for this great initiative. Without question, this will be an exciting chance for many young students who love and dream of the aviation world. We are committed to supporting the creation of these new opportunities in order to meet future aerospace industry needs around the world."*

It has the full support of London City Airport where British Airways has its fleet of Embraer aircraft based. The airport has offered case studies and materials for students to use as well as providing speakers as part of its commitment to local community engagement.

**Alison FitzGerald, COO London City Airport**, said: *"The airport has a long history in working with local young people and getting them into jobs. And this partnership with IASTI is particularly timely as we recover from COVID-19 and plan for a sustainable future, with young East Londoners at the heart of it."*

**Geoffrey Fowler, CEO and Principal of LDE UTC**, said: *"I am delighted that LDE UTC has been chosen to be the brand-new IASTI® London City. This exciting partnership will bring yet more opportunities for the young people of Newham and London, raising their aspirations and inspiring them to begin their journey into a dynamic career in aviation."*

*"We are looking forward to delivering state of the art modern pedagogy allowing learners the chance to explore sustainability, technology and personnel skills that will equip them to shape the aviation industry of the future."*

Students between the ages of 16-18 years, will choose from three different career pathways, pilots, engineers and ground dispatchers. They will be fully educated to higher qualification or degree level and trained to industry standards. Apprenticeship options will be available. Engineers and ground dispatchers also have the option to get a job at the age of 18 or continue on the practice-based degree for another three years making it a five year pathway. Trainee pilots will be on a five year pathway.

Simon Witts, CEO of IASTI Ltd, created the IASTIs to meet the needs of the air and space industry while fully integrating into the post-16 education system. He believes it will transform the way the next generation of aviation professionals are trained. With partial or fully offset funding options available, it breaks the stigma that only people from privileged backgrounds can become pilots. IASTI® London City will produce skills-matched aviation professionals, providing a shop window for civil airlines and operators to acquire fully-qualified trained pilots, engineers and ground staff.

LDE UTC's sponsors are delighted that they are able to expand their offer of high quality technical education for the young people of Newham and London.

**Professor Amanda Broderick Vice-Chancellor and President of the University of East London said,** *"The University of East London is delighted to celebrate the launch of the IASTI with our partners, the London Design & Engineering University Technical College. This important development extends access to an exciting and rewarding career in aviation, and our partnership facilitates career progress up to degree level and beyond to professional doctorate and the highest levels of expertise. With a significant investment in state-of-the-art resources for aviation including advanced simulators, augmented and virtual reality and computational techniques, this is a fantastic and timely opportunity for East London and the UK, bringing great hope and opportunity as we progress through and out of the pandemic."*

**Jeremy Galpin Chair of Directors for LDE UTC and Digital Social Value Lead, Costain said:** *"The launch of the London IASTI at LDE UTC is an exciting evolution in our employer and technology led education and provides a huge opportunity for the local community to access one of the most exciting and inspirational career sectors and play their part in delivering a sustainable future for the supermarine and space sectors"*

**Revd Tim Elbourne, Director of Education, Diocese of Chelmsford said:** *"The Church of England Diocese of Chelmsford, which serves East London and Essex, was a founder of LDE UTC and is a shareholder ('Member') in the college. It is also committed to carbon emission reduction and the sustainability of the Earth we share. This new partnership has the potential to contribute to technological education for sustainable futures and for the common good both within and beyond the aviation industry. It will also enrich opportunities for the young people of Newham and beyond whose human potential will drive the innovation our societies will need."*

I am sure you will agree, this is fantastic news, providing great opportunities for our young people, to live, learn and work in Newham.

Keep safe,



Geoffrey Fowler  
CEO & Principal