



News Release: 21 September 2026

HRUC students enjoy life-changing overseas trips as part of Turing Scheme



Nearly 100 students and apprentices from across HRUC (Harrow, Richmond and Uxbridge Colleges) enjoyed life-changing overseas trips this year as part of the Turing Scheme.

The scheme is the UK government's global programme for studying and working abroad. For many students, it is their first chance to travel without their family. Not only do they explore a different culture, but they also take on new challenges and enhance their employability skills.

For the 2025/26 academic year, around 3,500 HRUC students submitted applications to take part in the trips, showing the popularity of the scheme and its ability to open doors to new experiences.

To reflect on the success of the Turing Scheme over the 2025/26 academic year, students and staff came together for a celebration event held at Coca-Cola's European headquarters in Uxbridge on Thursday 10 September.

A total of 92 students and apprentices participated in trips to South Africa and Crete, Greece. With the support of HRUC's partners United Through Sport and EduNex, they supported teachers in classrooms, coached sports, delivered a holiday camp for children, and enjoyed work placements in hotels, nurseries, and other local businesses.

At the celebration event, four students received awards recognising their outstanding commitment and positive attitudes. Arina, Jesus, Mark and Darasimi all embraced the opportunities afforded by their trips and acted as positive representatives for HRUC.

Four students spoke of how their experiences pushed them out of their comfort zones and described how every day was an adventure. They added that the trips had changed their lives forever and had a significant positive impact on their CVs.

Speaking at the event, Clive Hodge, Principal of Uxbridge College, said: "It's incredible to see young people who show such care for others and have achieved so much. I'm truly humbled to see the work you've done on your placements. You should all be very proud of yourselves."

Denis Cicu, Employability Events and Trips Co-ordinator, added: "You never really know where an opportunity might lead you, so keep putting yourself forward, keep taking opportunities when they come your way, and don't be afraid to try something different."

Liam Plumridge, Assistant Director for Enhanced Skills and Employability, said: "None of this would have been possible without the brilliant staff who supported these trips. A big thank you to our Employability Events and Trips Team, our Marketing Team, and Sharon and everyone at Coca-Cola for once again hosting us."

"Finally, thank you to all our students and apprentices. Today has ultimately been about celebrating what you achieved, and we hope you're proud of yourselves and the experiences you've had."

The Turing Scheme gives an invaluable opportunity for HRUC students to expand their learning beyond the classroom, with 500 students having participated so far. The scheme is just one of the ways in which HRUC ensures that students leave college prepared for the world of work, with the skills and experience to set them up for future success.

For more information and to apply for a place on one of the 2026/27 Turing Scheme trips, please email employabilityevents@hruc.ac.uk

Note to editors: Following a merger in 2023, HRUC (Harrow, Richmond and Uxbridge Colleges) has rapidly evolved into a thriving educational hub with three colleges and a strong apprenticeship provision. The diverse and aspiring college group now serves nearly 15,000 learners across west and south London, offering a range of courses, including A-Levels, vocational programmes, T-Levels, higher education courses and apprenticeships. The College group also proudly supports over 1,000 learners with special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND), providing tailored programmes and internships to help them thrive.