

October 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we approach the end of the first half term, I am writing to share with you some information about the upcoming exams for students that will sit an external exam during this academic year.

Year 13 Mock Exams

Mock exams will take place twice this year, with the first schedule taking place from Monday 11th November to Friday 15th November.

The exams are a vital part of the students' preparation, and I would like to take this opportunity to highlight their importance. Mock exams provide students with a valuable opportunity to experience exam conditions, assess their current understanding of the course material, and identify areas that require further attention before their final exams. These assessments can also help students manage exam-related stress, offering a chance to practise time management and refine their exam techniques. The results from these mock exams are not only important for personal development but also play a key role in shaping UCAS predicted grades for university applications, where appropriate. Therefore, students are encouraged to approach these exams with focus and dedication.

GCSE Re-sit Exams

GCSE English and Maths exams take place for those students who have been entered, immediately after half term from Monday 4th November.

Study Advice & Revision

All students have been given a Study Advice Booklet to support them to become effective learners and help them choose the best strategies for remembering in the long term, which is vital for exam success. We also have a study advice section on the Student SharePoint Hub and weekly 'learning takeaways' are shared. Advice to protect students' wellbeing during the exam period is also available in the Study Advice Booklet and on SharePoint. To support you in helping your child at home, we have a study advice section on our website: <https://ncdoncaster.ac.uk/study-advice/>

All Y13 students will sit external exams this year and teachers have been helping them to build a detailed and effective revision plan. This is invaluable in ensuring students are well prepared for the upcoming exams but also to practise effective revision for the final exams in the Summer.

Practical Information

Timetables, Rooms & Seat Numbers

All relevant information regarding exam timetables, room allocations, and seat numbers will be made available on Cedar, which students can access before the start of the exams.

Results

The results of the mock exams will be available on Cedar from Friday 6th December. This will allow students time to review their performance and seek further guidance if necessary.

The results of the GCSE exams will be released on Cedar on Thursday 9th January 2025. Please note that GCSE students are expected to continue timetabled lessons until January results are known.

Cedar

As many of you are no doubt aware, Cedar is a great way to keep track of students' progress and attendance at college and allows you to email teachers. If you haven't created an account, please use this link to do so. You will need the next of kin email address that we have on file and the student's reference number that starts with D00. Please note that the Progress Tutor is usually the first port of call for queries or problems. <https://cedar.ncdoncaster.ac.uk/auth/account/create>

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to get in touch. Thank you for your continued support.

Yours sincerely



Helen Jackson
Associate Principal - New College Doncaster

P.S. Following feedback received via the recent Parent/Carer Survey, we would like to signpost our Student Enrichment Offer for 2024-25 <https://ncdoncaster.ac.uk/enrichment/>