

January 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

Principal's Spring Term Update - 2025

I would like to express my thanks to parents and students for what has been a very positive start to the academic year. Please find below information about the college and dates of key events taking place over the next few months.

Year 12 Parents' Evenings

Parents' Evening for all students will take place on **Wednesday 26 February** and we will write to parents with details of how to make appointments online. Please note that lessons will end after period 2 on the above date and college buses will depart at 12.45pm.

College Closure Days

Please note that the college will be closed to students as below due to events and staff training:

- **Wednesday 29 January** - Full Day
- **Wednesday 26 February** - Lessons end after Period 2. College closed PM
- **Thursday 15 May** - Lessons end after Period 2. College closed PM
- **Monday 23 June** - Full Day

Term Dates 2025-26

Term dates for next academic year can be found at <https://ncdoncaster.ac.uk/term-key-dates/>.

Please note that family holidays in term time are a breach of the college's *Code of Conduct* and are not approved in any circumstances. We appreciate the support and cooperation of parents in ensuring that family holidays are consistently booked during college holidays.

EXAMS**Year 12 BTEC & CTEC External Examinations**

A number of courses have external examinations taking place in May 2025. These are critically important examinations that contribute to students' final grades.

Timetables for these exams will be available to students via Cedar nearer the time.

Year 12 Progression Exams

Progression Exams take place for a large number of qualifications in June. The exams are carried out in formal exam conditions between Monday 16 June and Friday 20 June and more details will be shared nearer the time regarding the arrangements, including timetables and lessons during the week of exams.

The best way that students can prepare for the final progression exams is to ensure they have worked hard and revised throughout the year, in preparation for the regular monthly assessments. Students will be encouraged to develop a 12-week revision plan after February half-term.

Attendance

Overall attendance in college has been very strong this term. Analysis for sixth form colleges nationally demonstrates the significant impact of attendance on student results. Nationally, for students with 95% attendance or above, 22% of all A level grades exceeded minimum target grade. Students whose attendance falls below 90%, which constitutes persistence absence, inevitably tend to underachieve.

We have recently written to all parents and carers with details of their child's attendance so far this year, and you can check this yourself throughout the year by logging into Cedar.

Cedar

Thank you to parents and carers that are regularly logging into Cedar to track student attendance, progress, support and intervention. You can also use the system to directly email a student's progress tutor and teachers.

To either set up your parental account, if you haven't already, or to find the link to log into Cedar, please visit <https://ncdoncaster.ac.uk/cedar/>

For an introductory video about Cedar, please visit: <https://vimeo.com/250277026/c94b7bdab5>

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'HJ', written in a cursive style.

Helen Jackson
Associate Principal