

September 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

It has been a pleasure to see our new cohort of Y12 students start their sixth form journey over the last week. I hope that they are beginning to feel settled into life at New College and that they are enjoying their experience so far.

Invitation to Year 12 Parents and Carers Welcome Evening

We are very pleased to invite you to join the above event for parents, carers and students on **Tuesday 23 September** at New College Doncaster. During the evening, you will have the opportunity to attend a presentation delivered by the Senior Leadership Team, which will introduce you to the college's approach to teaching, learning and assessment and the support we provide for students. We will introduce some key people and will outline some of the important elements of our culture and systems. Parents and carers will also be welcome to ask any questions they may have about New College Doncaster at the end of the presentation.

A key priority this year is for all New College students to engage in work experience, which we know is important in helping students to develop employability skills and be ready for their next steps. Our Work Experience Coordinator, Naomi Grant, will be available throughout the evening and parents/carers are invited to discuss opportunities for work experience with a selection of invited providers. This is ahead of a dedicated Work Experience Day at the end of Year 12.

The evening will run from **5.00pm to 7.00pm**, with the Senior Leadership presentation available at **5.30pm** or **6.30pm**. Around these times, please take the opportunity to visit the work experience providers attending the event.

Work Experience and Volunteering

With the above in mind, we are always looking to expand the range of work experience opportunities available to our students and are asking all parents and carers to consider whether their place of employment may be able to accommodate students, even for a short visit. If you think you are able to help support this, please complete this brief [Expression of Interest](#).

In addition to our invitation to our Welcome Evening, please see below for some other messages about the weeks and months ahead.

Introducing Cedar – Our Online Portal for Parents

Cedar is an online portal accessible to teachers, students, parents and carers and you will find this invaluable over the next two years, helping you to check how things are going at college, and getting in touch with teachers and progress tutors directly if you would like to. We strongly encourage parents to regularly log into this system.

You can access Cedar by visiting <http://cedar.ncdoncaster.ac.uk/>. This web-based portal allows you to see:

- Real-time information about a student's attendance and punctuality.
- Details of how a student has performed in each of their formal assessments or mock exams and how this compares with their minimum target grades.
- A record of a student's pastoral log. This includes commendations – praise and celebration when things are going well. The pastoral log also details any extra help, support or guidance provided to students, and information about any concerns and actions taken to address them.

We have prepared a short video which introduces you to some of the key features which you can access using this link: <https://vimeo.com/250277026/c94b7bdab5>

Setting up your Parental Cedar Account

To set up your parental account please visit: <https://cedar.ncdoncaster.ac.uk/auth/account/create>

The email address used to create your account must be the same parental email address we have for you in our records – this will usually be the parental email address included in the student's original application. You will also need the student's reference number which starts with **D00** and is printed on every student's college ID card. If the email address and student reference match our records, an email will be sent to you with a link to finalise creating your account by setting a password.

If you are having difficulties, in the first instance it would be a good idea for the student to log into Cedar to check that the name of their next of kin / contacts and their email addresses recorded in the system are correct. Students can update this information by completing a 'Change of Details Form' at College Reception.

Study Support and Access Arrangements

Please check on Cedar that any implications for teaching and exam access arrangements are accurate. It is important that students get the right support and that they only receive Access Arrangements that have been officially approved. If you have any queries about this, please contact our SENDCo, Laura.carlin@nclt.ac.uk

Student Bursary Fund

We would like to draw your attention to the Student Bursary Fund. Eligibility is assessed on household income and support may be available to assist with access to IT, assisting with transport to and from college, and costs associated with college materials etc.

More information can be found on the college website <https://ncdoncaster.ac.uk/supporting-you-financially/>

We are keen to hear how you feel your child has settled into college, in addition to gaining student feedback, please look out for a parent and carer *Settling-In Survey* that will be shared with you this half term. I look forward to working in partnership with you over the next two years.

Yours sincerely



Helen Jackson
Principal