

Dear Parents and Carers,

Principal's Spring Term Update – 2026

I would like to express my thanks to parents and students for what has been a very positive start to the term. 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 Thursday 19 March 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:

- Monday 16 March - Full Day
- Thursday 19 March - Lessons end after Period 2. College closed PM
- Monday 22 June – Full Day

Term Dates 2026-27

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.

Work Experience Day – Thursday 2 July

We strongly encourage all students to participate in work experience, recognising its importance for gaining vital life skills and helping to prepare them for the next stage of their career. All students are able to request up to two weeks work experience throughout the year by speaking to our dedicated Work Experience Co-ordinator's in college. This year we are asking all students to complete a one-day work experience placement on Thursday 2 July. This could take the form of a traditional work experience placement, experiencing a different role in an organisation that they already have links to or by volunteering for a local organisation.

As a college we are constantly seeking ways to engage with more employers, if you are able to assist with offering a work experience placement or would like to know more about what this involves, we would love to hear from you. [Work Experience and Careers Help – Fill in form](#)

EXAMS

Year 12 BTEC & CTEC External Examinations

A number of courses have external examinations taking place in May 2026. 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 15 June and Friday 19 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.

I hope that you have found our recent communications regarding attendance and the academic progress of your child helpful. If you are not already using Cedar please do consider logging on to your account to use the system to directly email a student's progress tutor and teachers and regularly track student attendance, progress, support and intervention.

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>

Thank you for your continued support.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Helen Jackson'.

Helen Jackson
Principal