

April 2026

Principal's Summer Term Update – 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

Our Year 12 students are now in the final term of their first year at New College. There is a lot of working taking place in lessons and tutorials to prepare students for their end-of-year exams as well as giving advice and guidance about next steps after college.

Preparation for External BTEC Summer Exams and Progression Exams

The Senior Leadership Team have delivered tutorials to all Year 12 students to support the revision countdown that has been launched in college. The key messages from this were:

- To use teacher advice to audit subject knowledge and organise revision across the coming weeks
- To organise a weekly timetable to allow time for sufficient study sessions to prepare effectively and also leave plenty of time for relaxation and other commitments
- To reflect on how effective their study strategies are and to consider the shared advice about the best methods to use

Supporting Preparation and Revision

If you would like to see some of advice and guidance that is shared with students, you can find some resources here <https://ncdoncaster.ac.uk/study-advice/>. In addition to familiarising yourself with the resources in the link, doing some of the following can also be a helpful way to support your young person.

- Help with quizzing them on the knowledge they are learning
- Make sure they are taking breaks
- Help them to spread their revision over the coming weeks so that they can keep a balance rather than panic cramming before the exams
- Encourage them to avoid distractions when they are studying
- Encourage them to seek help and advice if they are feeling anxious

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 are available to students via Cedar and on our website:

<https://ncdoncaster.ac.uk/exam-timetables/>.

Year 12 Progression Exams

Year 12 students studying A-Level Qualifications will sit examinations carried out in formal exam conditions, between **Monday 15 June** and **Friday 19 June**. These exams are intended to assess whether students are in a sufficiently secure position to continue with their current courses at New College Doncaster in Year 13. The exams help students to reinforce learning and prioritise their revision as they prepare for Year 13. Students have been expected to develop and follow a revision plan leading up to their Progression Exams.

During the week of the Progression Exams, there will be no A-Level lessons taking place. **All** BTEC and Applied General lessons will however run as normal and students studying these qualifications are expected to attend these lessons.

Results & Progression Day - Friday 3 July

Every student will have a progression interview on Results & Progression Day to review how the year has gone and to discuss students' progression into Year 13. We will review results in the Progression Exams as well as attendance, commitment and behaviour. Occasionally, we may ask parents to also attend a meeting in college prior to Progression Day if we have any significant concerns that it would be helpful to discuss with you.

Preparation for Next Steps

The tutorial programme is supporting students with their choices for next steps through sessions focused on 'Options after College' and 'Employability Skills'. Progress Tutors are currently delivering sessions on CVs and Personal Statements in preparation for applications to employment, apprenticeships, higher level apprenticeships and university.

We have previously made you aware of the 'Work Experience Day' on Thursday 2 July when all students are expected to undertake a day of work experience. It is fantastic to see students showing such enthusiasm for this opportunity and week commencing 27 April, students will be asked to complete an online form sharing any work experience already secured or steps they are taking to arrange a suitable placement. Final plans should be confirmed with Progress Tutors by Monday 1 June.

Key Dates

A reminder of the following key dates in college:

- Monday 22 June - College closed all day (staff training)
- Wednesday 1 July – Y12 last day of lessons
- Thursday 2 July – Work Experience Day
- Friday 3 July – Y12 Results & Progression Day
- Tuesday 1 September – First day of new term, Y13 return to college

Yours sincerely,



Helen Jackson
Principal