



September 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

As students are settling into Year 13, I am writing with some important messages about the weeks and months ahead, and please note that this, and all general letters can also be found on our website.

<https://ncdoncaster.ac.uk/letters/>

We are pleased to invite you to our Virtual Next Steps Evening for Parents and Carers of Year 13 students. The event will provide reminders of the key information we shared earlier this year at our event in April, and will include updates on the next steps regarding UCAS applications. There will be an opportunity for you to ask questions or seek clarification of any queries you may have regarding university, apprenticeships or employment.

Please note, the event will be split into two halves.

- applying to

What happens after the application is submitted and responding to university offers, including the selection of firm and insurance choices

Recap of student finance and how to apply

Additional important dates for those applying to university, including information about accommodation and other living arrangements

This will be followed by an opportunity for Q&A.



Most students who are enrolled on Applied General Qualifications will be sitting exams in Year 13, often as early as January 2025. Please be aware that external exams cannot be rescheduled and are a compulsory part of the course. Missing an exam will almost certainly result in failing the course unless there are significant mitigating circumstances, or unless the student resits the exam at their own expense later, although this is not always possible.

Looking ahead for subjects, the awarding bodies have begun to release the dates for the external exams in the summer of 2025. In 2024, the exams started very early in May and ran up to the end of June.

Artificial Intelligence is increasingly relevant in education, and staff will be supporting students in the safe use of AI. However, all students are being reminded that any work they produce for assessment must be authentic to them and cannot have been generated using AI. Nationally, the improper use of AI has already led to some students being disqualified from coursework and/or full qualifications, severely impacting their progression to positive destinations.

It is important that students get the right support and that they only receive access arrangements that have been officially approved. If you are a parent or carer of a student who has study support needs, please log into Cedar with them and check under 'Learner Support' that their implications for teaching and exam access arrangements are accurate. Please note that due to the size of the college, the arrangements for smaller rooms may differ from those experienced at school. If you have any queries about this, please direct them to the SENDCo laura.carlin@nclt.ac.uk

