Chief Executive Officer: Richard Fletcher

Principal: Vicky Marks
New College Pontefract, Park Lane, Pontefract, WF8 4QR
(01977) 702139
www.ncpontefract.ac.uk
info@ncpontefract.ac.uk

October 2022

Dear parents and carers,
As a follow up to the recent Parent/Carer Welcome Evening, 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://ncpontefract.ac.uk/letters/

If you were unable to attend or watch the live stream of the Welcome Evening, you can find a recording and the PowerPoint slides on our website here. Topics such as results, expectations, support, enrichment, teaching & learning and parking and housekeeping were covered in the presentations.

I hope that students are settling into their new routines and that they feel supported and informed. If you have any concerns or queries, please feel free to contact the relevant Progress Tutor via Cedar (see below). All students should now know the name of their Progress Tutor.

Cedar
As some of you are no doubt already aware, Cedar is a great way to keep track of students' progress and attendance at college, and also allows you to email teachers. If you haven't created an account, please use this link to do so. You will need a next of kin email address that we have on file and the student's reference number that starts with L00.
https://cedar.ncpontefract.ac.uk/auth/account/create

Exams and assessments
Some students who are enrolled on applied general qualifications will be sitting external exams in year 12. Some of these are as early as January 2023 and some are in May and June. 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 at a later date. This is not always possible. I would therefore urge you to look carefully at the list of applied general exams on page 3 of this letter. This list is provisional based on the plans for each subject as things stand, and only includes the winter series as the summer dates have not yet been released. Please assume that there could well be a summer exam for applied general subjects such as BTECs, but students will be informed by their teachers.

Looking ahead for A level subjects, there will be internal Progression Exams in May 2023. The awarding bodies have not released the dates for the external exams in the summer of 2024 at the time of writing. In 2022 the exams started in early May and ran up to the end of June. We will support students with revision in college, including a 10-week revision countdown with weekly advice and reminders.

Work experience and volunteering

In order to support students with their next steps after education, we are providing opportunities to engage with employers in college as well as encouraging them to visit workplaces as a volunteer or for work experience. Even half a day in a place of work can help with employability skills and decision making, so we 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, please complete this brief expression of interest, and thank you in advance.

Attendance and Holidays

Holidays taken during term time cannot be authorised and can have a significant impact on academic progress. In some cases, where attendance is already low, holiday absence will result in escalation of intervention levels. Please support the college in trying to ensure that missed learning is minimised and refer to the term dates and exam timetables when booking holidays.
https://ncpontefract.ac.uk/term-key-dates/

Yours sincerely,

Vicky Marks

Principal, New College Pontefract

BTEC January 2023
Exams

Qualification	Exam Title	Exam Date
Art and Design (Photography) Extended Certificate	Critical and Contextual Studies	3 hours supervised Part A 05/01/23 3.5 hour exam Part B 11/01/23
Health & Social Care Diploma	Human Lifespan Development	13 Jan 23 PM
Health & Social Care Extended Diploma	Human Lifespan Development	13 Jan 23 PM
Music Performance Extended Certificate	Professional Practice in Music Industry	19 Jan 23 AM and 20 Jan 23 AM
Psychology (Applied) Extended Certificate	Psychological Approaches	11 Jan 23 PM
Sport Diploma	Fitness Training and Programming	11 Jan 23 AM
Sport Extended Diploma	Fitness Training and Programming	11 Jan 23 AM

Cambridge Tech
January Exams

Extended Diploma IT	Fundamentals of IT	9 Jan 23 AM
Diploma IT	Fundamentals of IT	9 Jan 23 AM
Introductory Diploma IT	Fundamentals of IT	9 Jan 23 AM
Extended Diploma IT	Cyber Security	16 Jan 23 AM
Diploma IT	Cyber Security	16 Jan 23 AM