

October 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope this letter finds you well. I am writing to inform you about the upcoming external GCSE exams for those on re-sit courses and the mock exams for students on courses with external exams this year.

External GCSE English and maths re-sit exams take place for those students who have been entered, immediately after half term from **4 November**. The mock exams are scheduled to take place from **Monday, 11 November, to Monday, 18 November**. The exams are a vital part of the students' preparation, and for those sitting external Btec Exams in January are the only opportunity to sit a mock paper. I would like to take this opportunity to highlight their importance.

### Why Mock Exams Matter

Mock exams provide students with an invaluable opportunity to experience exam conditions, assess their current understanding of the course material, and identify areas that require further attention before their final exams. These assessments can also help students manage exam-related stress, offering a chance to practice time management and refine their exam techniques.

The results from these mock exams are not only important for personal development but also play a key role in shaping **UCAS predicted grades** for university applications, where appropriate. Therefore, students are encouraged to approach these exams with focus and dedication.

### Practical Information

- **Timetables, rooms, and seat numbers:** All relevant information regarding exam timetables, room allocations, and seat numbers will be made available on Cedar, which students can access before the start of the exams. Please check each morning as amendments can be made.
- **Results:** The results of the mock exams will be available on Cedar from **6 December**. This will allow students ample time to review their performance and seek further guidance if necessary. The results of the GCSE exams will be released on Cedar on **Thursday 9 January 2025**.

As many of you are no doubt aware, Cedar is a great way to keep track of students' progress and attendance at college and 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. Please note that the Progress Tutor is usually the first port of call for queries or problems. <https://cedar.ncpontefract.ac.uk/auth/account/create>

We kindly ask for your support in encouraging students to take these exams seriously, as they represent an important step in their academic journey. The DIL set over the coming weeks, including a reasonable amount over the half term holiday, will support with preparation. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to get in touch. Thank you for your continued support.

Yours sincerely



Vicky Marks  
Principal