

27th January 2025

Dear parents and carers,

As we have settled back into college after the break, I wanted to share some information about further careers deadlines and events coming up this term.

Tutorials

Year 12 tutorials this term is focussing on their next steps after college. Students have been looking at what careers will suit them, based on their strengths and skills. Many of our students move onto university after college so we have been looking at the types of courses after college; where to study and learning about the differences between college and university life, in particular understanding how student finance works. We have also been looking at apprenticeships and looking at the different types available in this area. Gaining a higher or degree level apprenticeship can be extremely competitive and therefore it is important that students are well prepared for the application process. We like students to receive all the information about the range of options before deciding on the route they wish to take. Some students will feel that university is not right for them, but we ask for your support with helping them to not discount it at this stage and be open to a range of options.

This month sees the start of some of our lunchtime talks in college (advertised to students via Email and Teams). We begin with a series of Russell Group University talks for students to attend, followed by several Yorkshire Based universities. Please see below the list of amended dates:

28 th January	Newcastle University
30 th January	Sheffield University
11 th February	University of Leeds
25 th February	Durham University
5 th March	York St John University
18 th March	Leeds Trinity University
25 th March	Huddersfield University
27 th March	Leeds Beckett University

Alongside subject careers talks, we also have a lunchtime talk planned for Careers in the Civil Service on 11th March (more details for students via Email and Teams).

If students are unable to attend, the PowerPoints will be available after the event via SharePoint and there will be further opportunities for students to hear from universities at events later in the academic year.

Next Steps Recording

We have produced a range of recordings to provide you with information about your young person's next steps. We advise parents/carers to watch these in advance of the Next Steps event on April 29th. Our first recording is an introduction to careers support in college. We hope you find this useful. The recording lasts approximately 20 minutes.

<https://vimeo.com/1049270561/ad30642c2b?share=copy>

Apprenticeships after college

With National Apprenticeship Week around the corner, the largest apprenticeship fair in the area takes place on Wednesday 12th February at the Leeds First Direct Arena 1-7pm. It is a useful opportunity to attend in advance of year 13 to start to research the type of apprenticeships students would be interested in applying for in the future upon completing level 3 qualifications. Students will not be applying for such apprenticeships opportunities until year 13. Students, parents, and carers can attend the event by booking a free ticket via the link below:

<https://www.firstdirectarena.com/events/detail/leeds-apprenticeship-recruitment-fair-2025>

Work Experience

At New College Pontefract, we believe it is important for students to gain some work experience to help them with their future plans. Students will be expected to complete a 2-day placement on 2nd and 3rd July and have been preparing for this during tutorials, by planning letters to employers. Students are also able to apply for placements which our Work Experience Co-ordinator has been able to secure. We would really appreciate your support in helping your young person through this process of making applications as well as any contacts you may have that would be useful for their career aims when trying to find a work placement. The deadline for students to arrange work experience and complete the work experience application form is 12th May 2025. All supporting information about work experience is available via the colleges' SharePoint pages.

If you would like to get in touch with any questions, please get in touch via ncpcareers@nclt.ac.uk

Yours sincerely,



Helen Lonsdale

Progression Manager