



CASTLE DONINGTON COLLEGE

WEEKLY PARENT BULLETIN

WORK HARD. TAKE RESPONSIBILITY. BE KIND



6th June 2025

Dear Parents and Carers

Welcome to our weekly bulletin, providing you with a range of general information and forthcoming events at the college.

All Years	<p>The school day during exam season</p> <p>A reminder that In order to accommodate the public exam season, from Monday 12th May to Friday 26th June the school day will run as follows:</p> <p>8:45: Tutor time 9:10: Lesson 1 10:10: Lesson 2 11:10: Break 11:30: Lesson 3 12:30: Lunch 13:15: Lesson 4 14:15: Lesson 5 15:15: End of day</p> <p>During the exam period, students do not need to bring a full PE kit to school but they must have with them a pair of trainers to change into for PE lessons. Fields can be muddy, which means a change of footwear will be essential</p> <p>All students will still be expected to fully participate in all lessons and if Ill or injured then a note will still be needed to excuse them from performing in the lesson. All students will be reminded of being 'PE ready' by tying hair back and removing jewellery.</p> <p>When exams finish at the end of June, students will be expected to return to the full PE Kit for all PE lessons.</p>
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Communication with the College

If you need to contact the college, you can telephone on 01332 810528

Email for general queries: postroom@cdcollege.uk Please include the nature of your enquiry in the subject line of the email.

You can contact us regarding absences: attendance@cdcollege.uk

Please include full details and attach/screenshot appointment cards for our records.

First Aid

We have a first aid email address where you can send any new or updated medical information for your child. This is helpful to enable us to help manage your child. firstaid@cdcollege.uk

Polite reminder: - We are happy for your child to carry paracetamol or ibuprofen for their own use but please inform them not to give to other students.

Satchel One Login Reminders

Pupils should log in to their Satchel One account via the "Office 365" function. Their username is their school email address and their password is the same one they use to access the school computers.

Attendance

Thank you for your continued support with your child's regular attendance to school.

Regularly attending school has a positive impact on children and young people - academically, socially and emotionally. Evidence shows that the students with the highest attendance throughout their time in school gain the best examination results.

Percentage Attendance	Number of Days Absence	Learning Missed in 1 Year	Learning Missed over 5 Years
100%	0 Days	0 Lessons	0 Lessons
97%	6 Days	30 Lessons	150 Lessons
95%	9.5 Days	48 Lessons	240 Lessons
93%	13 Days	65 Lessons	325 Lessons
90%	19 Days	95 Lessons	475 Lessons

Free School Meals eligibility

If your child isn't registered for Free School Meals and you receive any of the following benefits, your child may be able to get free school meals:

- Income Support
- Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- The guaranteed element of Pension Credit
- Child Tax Credit (provided you're not also entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual gross income of no more than £16,190)
- Working Tax Credit run-on - paid for 4 weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit
- Universal Credit - if you apply on or after 1 April 2018 your household income must be less than £7,400 a year (after tax and not including any benefits you get)

Follow this link to apply: [Free School Meals](#)

Upcoming Trips

Saturday 21st – Sunday 22nd June

Duke of Edinburgh Bronze assessment weekend

Drop off point: Hartington Square at 1000 on Saturday 21st June.

<https://maps.app.goo.gl/pd7q8XEbw1KQsLWb9>

Collection Point: Hartington Square at 1500 on Sunday 22nd June.

<https://maps.app.goo.gl/pd7q8XEbw1KQsLWb9>

Please refer to the last Parent Pay communication for further details.

Please also ensure all payments are made by 13th June via Parent Pay.

Saturday 21st – Monday 23rd June

Duke of Edinburgh Silver assessment weekend

Drop off point: Waterhouse Car Park at 0900 on Saturday 21st June.

<https://maps.app.goo.gl/L75zW7831TLrAbuaA>

Collection Point: Grin Low Car park at 1500 on Monday 23rd June.

<https://maps.app.goo.gl/BR4N2LePKqnLhY4Q8>

Please refer to the last Parent Pay communication for further details.
Please also ensure all payments are made by 13th June via Parent Pay.

Wednesday 25th June

De Montfort University Degree Show, Year 10

Friday 27th June – Yorkshire Wildlife Park, Year 7

Friday 27th June – Year 11 Prom

Specialist Education Needs Assessment (SENA) team, Leicestershire

The Specialist Education Needs Assessment (SENA) team in Leicestershire has developed a new and improved service to help families contact the service and deal with enquiries.

As of **Monday 2nd June 2025** Parents and Carers can contact the Service as follows:

The best way to contact SENA is by using their online **Contact Us form**

<https://www.leicestershire.gov.uk/contact-sena>

The SENA Case Managers can then review your query and make all the necessary checks and contact you with a clear response.

Another option is to use **MS Teams Bookings**

<https://outlook.office.com/book/SpecialEducationalNeedsAssessmentSENAteamBookAChat@leics.gov.uk/>

which offers you the opportunity to book a call with someone online to discuss your query.

Bookable 15-minute slots are available 9 am to 11 am on a Tuesday of each week.

Alternatively, a Duty SENA officer is available to pick up telephone calls on **0116 305 6600** on

Mondays 2 pm to 4.30 pm;

Wednesdays 12 pm to 2.30 pm;

Thursdays 9 am to 11.30 am.

Calls are queue managed to avoid long wait times.

	<p>See Video 'How to contact SENA' https://youtu.be/vqP9qyRjrS0</p>
<p>Year 7</p>	<p>Pastoral Support</p> <p>Please contact your child's Form Tutor and Head of Year (Mr Nelson) for any further support required in school. We would also like to hear of any success stories outside of school, so we can help to celebrate these achievements with our students.</p> <p><u>Year 7 ambassadors</u></p> <p>On Wednesday 3rd June we hosted our out of catchment event for Year 6. We had 18 Year 7 ambassadors who volunteered to run tours and answer questions from both pupils and parents. Each of our Year 7 pupils did the school incredibly proud and were a credit to the college. A big thank you to all involved</p> <p>Mr Nelson</p> <p><u>MFL – Concrete Poetry Competition</u></p> <p>The MFL department are launching a Concrete Poetry Competition. A concrete poem is a shape that is made up of words – It's where language becomes art!</p> <p>The task is to create a concrete poem in French or Spanish on any theme you like.</p> <p>The competition will be judged on</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Creative shape that reflects the meaning of the poem - Great use of the target language. <p>Please submit your entries via your language teacher by Monday 30th June. There will be a prize for the best entry.</p> <p>Here's an example for inspiration.</p>



Year 8

Pastoral Support

Please contact your child’s Form Tutor and Head of Year (Mr Canavan) for any further support required in school. We would also like to hear of any success stories outside of school, so we can help to celebrate these achievements with our students.

MFL – Concrete Poetry Competition

The MFL department are launching a Concrete Poetry Competition. A concrete poem is a shape that is made up of words – It's where language becomes art!

The task is to create a concrete poem in French or Spanish on any theme you like.

The competition will be judged on

- Creative shape that reflects the meaning of the poem
- Great use of the target language.

Please submit your entries via your language teacher by Monday 30th June. There will be a prize for the best entry.

Here’s an example for inspiration.



Year 9

Pastoral Support

Please contact your child’s Form Tutor and Head of Year (Mrs Danes) for any further support required in school. We would also like to hear of any success stories outside of school, so we can help to celebrate these achievements with our students.

MFL – Concrete Poetry Competition

The MFL department are launching a Concrete Poetry Competition. A concrete poem is a shape that is made up of words – It's where language becomes art!

The task is to create a concrete poem in French or Spanish on any theme you like.

The competition will be judged on

- Creative shape that reflects the meaning of the poem
- Great use of the target language.

Please submit your entries via your language teacher by Monday 30th June. There will be a prize for the best entry.

Here's an example for inspiration.



Year 10

Pastoral Support

Please contact your child's Form Tutor and Head of Year (Mr Brown) for any further support required in school. We would also like to hear of any success stories outside of school, so we can help to celebrate these achievements with our students.

Year 10 Mock Exam timetable can be viewed at the end of this bulletin

Maths - End of Year exams

Pupils have been given the following resources to help guide their revision for their Maths end of year exams.

- Revision checklist with linked MathsWatch video document.
- Revision Mats.

In addition to the above, pupils have their Topic Check sheets and Unit Test analysis documents. (These documents are on green paper and can be found stuck in the pupils' exercise book.) To improve, pupils need to watch the linked Maths Watch videos and attempt the questions focussing on the topics they have identified as an area for development.

Art, Textiles and Graphics Trip to De Montfort University

We have sent out letters to all those invited to the Degree Show at De Montfort University on the 25th June 2025. The show is a great way to introduce students to Higher Education, to see what courses and potential careers exist in the creative world, and to see how collections are created, and presented at a high level.

Please check emails, and ParentPay if your child studies one of the above subjects. If the trip has any spaces, we will also open it up to Design Technology students in May.

Geography fieldwork trip

All GCSE Geography pupils are going to Nottingham on Monday 7th July. Details have been sent via Parent Pay including details on how to pay. The cost is £12.50 per pupil.

MFL – Concrete Poetry Competition

The MFL department are launching a Concrete Poetry Competition. A concrete poem is a shape that is made up of words – It's where language becomes art!

The task is to create a concrete poem in French or Spanish on any theme you like.

The competition will be judged on

- Creative shape that reflects the meaning of the poem
- Great use of the target language.

Please submit your entries via your language teacher by Monday 30th June. There will be a prize for the best entry.

Here's an example for inspiration.



Year 11

Pastoral Support

Please contact your child's Form Tutor and Head of Year (Mr Purkiss) for any further support required in school. We would also like to hear of any

success stories outside of school, so we can help to celebrate these achievements with our students.

GCSE Exam Timetable

A copy of this can be found **here** on our website.

Year 11 Amended Timetables

Year 11 pupils will be following amended timetables after half term. An updated version of these, with some minor changes was issued on Wednesday 4th June.

YEAR 10 MOCK EXAMS JUNE 2025

Morning Session			Date	Afternoon Session		
Subject	Title	Duration		Subject	Title	Duration
English Literature	Shakespeare and Post 1914 Literature	1h 45 m	Thursday 19th June	Food and Nutrition	Elements of Paper 1	1h
				Spanish	Writing (F and H)	1h 15m
				Design - Option A	Core Technical Principals and Designing and Making Principles	1h 15m
				History - Option A	Paper 1: Crime and Punishment	1h 20m
				Drama	Component 3: Theatre Makers in Practice	
Maths	Paper 1 non calculator (F and H)	1h 30m	Friday 20th June	Biology	Combined Science Biology Paper 1 (F and H)	1h 15m
				Biology	Separate Science Biology Paper 1 (F and H)	1h 45m
Monday 23rd June - no exams						
English Language	Fiction and Imaginative writing	1h 45m	Tuesday 24th June	Child Development	Health and wellbeing	1h
				History - Option D	Paper 1: Crime and Punishment	1h 20m
				Computer Science	Paper 2: computational thinking, algorithms and programming	1h 30m
				PE - Option D	Elements of Papers 1 and 2	1h 30m
Wednesday 25th June - no exams						
Maths Calculator	Paper 2 calculator (F and H)	1h 30m	Thursday 26th June	Citizenship - Option C	Elements of Paper 2	1h 5m
				Design - Option C	Core Technical Principals and Designing and Making Principles	1h 15m
				PE - Option C	Elements of Papers 1 and 2	1h 30m
				Physics - Option C	Separate Science Physics (F and H)	1h 45m
Chemistry	Combined Science Chemistry Paper 1 (F and H)	1h 15m	Friday 27th June	Geography	Paper 1	1h 30m
				French	Writing (F and H)	1h 15m
Chemistry	Separate Science Chemistry Paper 1 (F and H)	1h 45m		Citizenship - Option B	Elements of Paper 2	1h 5m