



CASTLE DONINGTON COLLEGE

# WEEKLY PARENT BULLETIN

WORK HARD. TAKE RESPONSIBILITY. BE KIND



13<sup>th</sup> 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><b>Thank a Teacher Day</b></p> <p>The Thank a Teacher campaign recognises ALL staff working in UK early years, schools and colleges; school leaders, teachers, teaching assistants, and all support staff such as lunchtime supervisors, caretakers and cleaners. If you're feeling shy you can send a card anonymously.</p> <p><a href="#">Thank a Teacher Form - Thank a Teacher</a></p> <p><b>The school day during exam season</b></p> <p>A reminder that In order to accommodate the public exam season, from Monday 12<sup>th</sup> May to Friday 26<sup>th</sup> 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>
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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

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.

When exams finish at the end of June, students will be expected to return to the full PE Kit for all PE lessons.

### **Communication with the College**

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

Email for general queries: [postroom@cdcollege.uk](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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 22<sup>nd</sup> June

Duke of Edinburgh Bronze assessment weekend

**Drop off point: Hartington Square at 1000 on Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> June.**

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

**Collection Point: Hartington Square at 1500 on Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> 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 23<sup>rd</sup> June

Duke of Edinburgh Silver assessment weekend

**Drop off point: Waterhouse Car Park at 0900 on Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> June.**

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

**Collection Point: Grin Low Car park at 1500 on Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> June.**

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

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

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Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> June

De Montfort University Degree Show, Year 10

Friday 27<sup>th</sup> June – Yorkshire Wildlife Park, Year 7

Friday 27<sup>th</sup> 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)

<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/)  
[https://outlook.office.com/book/SpecialEducationalNeedsAssessment  
SENATeamBookAChat@leics.gov.uk/](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.

See Video '[How to contact SENA](https://youtu.be/vqP9qyRrS0)' <https://youtu.be/vqP9qyRrS0>

### **Leicestershire Local Offer Special Educational Needs and Disabilities Roadshow**

“Come along and find out about Local SEND services and support.

The Roadshow brings together information and services which support families of children and young people with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) all in one place. A chance to meet and chat with representatives from Leicestershire County Council and its partners”.

Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> June 10.00 am - 13.00pm

Gorse Covert Community Centre, Loughborough; LE114RZ

To book your FREE tickets via

**[leicestershire.gov.uk/ local-offer-roadshows](https://leicestershire.gov.uk/local-offer-roadshows)**

To find out more about the SEND Local Offer in Leicestershire please visit

**[www.leics.gov.uk/ send](https://www.leics.gov.uk/send)**

Year 7

**Pastoral Support**

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.

**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 30<sup>th</sup> June. There will be a prize for the best entry.

Here's an example for inspiration.



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 – Specialisation for Year 9**

A letter and a Microsoft Form have been sent out to parents asking for a preference in language for current Year 8 pupils going into Year 9. Please can we have responses submitted by the **27<sup>th</sup> June**.

<https://forms.office.com/e/g9tMBGKdBS>

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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.

### **Duke of Edinburgh Award:**

Duke of Edinburgh Bronze assessment weekend

**Drop off point: Hartington Square at 1000 on Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> June.**

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

**Collection Point: Hartington Square at 1500 on Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> June.**

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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**

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### **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**

An email has been sent for all students that are coming on the DMU trip on 25/06/25. Please contact the school if you have any further questions regarding the trip that I have not mentioned in that email!

Kind Regards,  
Mrs Dudley

### **Geography fieldwork trip**

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

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Here's an example for inspiration.



	GCSE PE – All Y10 GCSE PE students need to have their NEA saved/emailed ready to upload on the school network next week.
Year 11	<p><b>Pastoral Support</b></p> <p>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.</p> <p><b><u>GCSE Exam Timetable</u></b></p> <p>A copy of this can be found <a href="#"><b>here</b></a> on our website.</p>

**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	<b>Thursday 19th June</b>	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	<b>Friday 20th June</b>	Biology	Combined Science Biology Paper 1 (F and H)	1h 15m
				Biology	Separate Science Biology Paper 1 (F and H)	1h 45m
<b>Monday 23rd June - no exams</b>						
English Language	Fiction and Imaginative writing	1h 45m	<b>Tuesday 24th June</b>	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
<b>Wednesday 25th June - no exams</b>						
Maths Calculator	Paper 2 calculator (F and H)	1h 30m	<b>Thursday 26th June</b>	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	<b>Friday 27th June</b>	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