



CASTLE DONINGTON COLLEGE

WEEKLY PARENT BULLETIN

WORK HARD. TAKE RESPONSIBILITY. BE KIND



4th July 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>End of term arrangements</p> <p>The school day will finish at 12:45pm on Friday 11th July. School buses will collect pupils at this time. Pupils will not be required to wear school uniform on the last day of term. Suggested £1 donation towards the School Council via cash or ParentPay.</p> <p>Celebration Assemblies</p> <p>During the final week of term, all students will receive formal recognition for their academic progress and achievement alongside our coveted specialist awards linked to the college values.</p> <p>We very much look forward to sharing in these celebrations!</p> <p>Communication with the College</p> <p>If you need to contact the college, you can telephone on 01332 810528</p> <p>Email for general queries: postroom@cdcollege.uk Please include the nature of your enquiry in the subject line of the email.</p> <p>You can contact us regarding absences: attendance@cdcollege.uk</p> <p>Please include full details and attach/screenshot appointment cards for our records.</p>
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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.

Family Handbook

Please view our Family Handbook (available [here](#)) for a wealth of further information about the college. By way of reminder, our uniform expectations are also including in this bulletin to ensure all students are fully prepared for next academic year.

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](#)

Holiday Activities and Food Programme

- Vouchers will be sent out next week for those pupils eligible for the Holiday Food Programme.
- There are a range of holiday activities in NW Leicestershire. Details can be viewed here: [NWL HAF providers - Summer 2025](#)

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/>

	<p>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> <p>See Video ‘How to contact SENA’ https://youtu.be/vqP9qyRJRSO</p> <p>To find out more about the SEND Local Offer in Leicestershire please visit www.leics.gov.uk/ send</p> <p>Sports Day</p> <p>Our annual sports day took place on Tuesday 1st July. It was a huge success with great numbers of participation and athletic performance.</p> <p>Special mention to 8PW who took the prize for winning form on the day.</p> <p>Sophia Fletcher also broke the Y8 high jump record.</p> <p>Well done to everyone that took part – more information and news from sports day will follow in the summer newsletter.</p> <p>DofE</p> <p>A huge congratulations to both our Bronze and Silver Duke of Edinburgh participants for successfully completing their Assessed Expedition. All participants conducted themselves brilliantly in conditions that presented a variety of challenges. They were all true ambassadors for the College and should be proud of their achievements.</p> <p>PE Lessons: now the exams have finished ALL students need to bring their FULL PE KIT to every PE lesson and make sure they are ‘PE READY’ for every lesson.</p> <p>PE facilities update – the new full size astro pitch has now been completed and students will get to experience this facility over the next week in their PE lessons. If students do have astro trainers at home, then please ask them to bring them into school for PE lessons.</p>
Year 7	<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</p>

	<p>success stories outside of school, so we can help to celebrate these achievements with our students.</p>
Year 8	<p><u>Pastoral Support</u></p> <p>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.</p>
Year 9	<p><u>Pastoral Support</u></p> <p>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.</p>
Year 10	<p><u>Pastoral Support</u></p> <p>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.</p> <p>PE Loughborough University trip – The PE team took all GCSE PE students to Loughborough university to complete their athletics assessments. The students were a credit to the college with some fantastic runs and times recorded. Well done to all that attended.</p> <p>Year 10 Work Experience – Just a thank you to all parents who helped to arrange Work Experience placements for their young people and a big well done to those who completed their work placements. Having spoken to many of them, we are all so proud of how they have conducted themselves during the week and it is clear that they have learned an awful lot from their week in work. Many of the employers that we spoke to have praised their hard work, their initiative and their behaviour during the placements.</p>
Year 11	<p><u>Pastoral Support</u></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><u>Year 11 Medication</u></p> <p>If any Year 11 Students have Medication securely stored in college, would parents please confirm if you would like this returned or for it to be taken to the local pharmacy and destroyed.</p>

Castle Donington College Uniform Expectations

Castle Donington College expects all students in all years to conform to the following dress code. This is essential towards creating a clear sense of identity and inclusive belonging, whilst also being practical and smart. We strongly recommend that all items of uniform are named so they can be returned to a student if lost. We also accept no responsibility for any lost belongings.

Uniform Item	What we MUST wear	What we DO NOT wear
College jumper	Navy-blue college jumper with logo	Any form of non-uniform jumpers or hoodies
Polo shirt	Navy-blue or white college polo shirt with logo	Any form of non-uniform shirts
School trousers	Tailored black or grey school trousers	Any form of non-uniform trouser made of fabric other than standard school trouser fabric i.e. denim trousers, combat trousers, chinos, leggings etc.
School skirt	Black or grey tailored or pleated school skirt worn to the knee	Lycra, jersey or skater style skirts
School shorts	Tailored black or grey school shorts worn just above the knee	Any form of non-uniform shorts i.e. sports shorts
School tights	Plain black or grey tights	Patterned tights or tights of an alternative colour
Shoes	All black leather-type, polishable footwear. Flat with a closed toe and heel	Any form of alternative footwear
Hair	Hair must be of a natural colour	Brightly coloured hair of an unnatural colour i.e. pink, blue, purple, green etc.
Jewellery	One pair of stud earrings are permissible	Jewellery such as rings, bracelets, necklaces, dangly or hooped earrings, facial* or tongue piercings <i>*Clear plastic retainers may be worn</i>
Make up	Light, natural make up is permissible	Excessive make up, including false eyelashes and false acrylic nails
PE top	Navy-blue college PE top with logo	Any form of non-uniform jumpers or hoodie
PE bottoms	Dark coloured sports shorts, tracksuit bottoms or jogging bottoms (minimal branding)	Brightly coloured sports shorts, tracksuit bottoms or jogging bottoms with excessive branding
PE trainers	Safe, sensible sports shoes	