



CASTLE DONINGTON COLLEGE

# WEEKLY PARENT BULLETIN

12<sup>th</sup> June 2026

Dear Parents and Carers

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

## Key Information for next week

### Year 11 Exam Timetable for week beginning Monday 15 June

Mon 15 Jun	09:15	01:45	AQA	8463/2H	Physics Paper 2 Tier H
Mon 15 Jun	09:15	01:45	AQA	8463/2F	Physics Paper 2 Tier F
Mon 15 Jun	09:15	01:15	AQA	8464/P/2H	Combined Sci Trilogy Physics P2H
Mon 15 Jun	09:15	01:15	AQA	8464/P/2F	Combined Sci Trilogy Physics P2F
Mon 15 Jun	13:15	01:45	AQA	8365/2	Further Mathematics Paper 2
Tue 16 Jun	09:15	01:10	AQA	8692/WF	Spanish Writing Test Tier F
Tue 16 Jun	09:15	01:15	AQA	8692/WH	Spanish Writing Test Tier H

Year 10 Mock Exam Timetable can be found at the end of the Bulletin.

Please note that Year 10 should be in full uniform (not PE kit) from the beginning of the Mock Exam period.

### **PE lessons during the exam season**

During the period from **Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> May to Friday 25<sup>th</sup> June** some of our indoor PE spaces will be utilised as examination halls. **Consequently, we request that pupils in years 7 – 9 attend school in their CDC PE kit on their designated Core PE days, but only on days when they have practical PE.**

During this period of time, pupils will remain in their PE kit throughout the entire school day. For these PE sessions, pupils should ensure they have appropriate footwear. A reminder of the school PE kit:

PE top	Navy-blue college PE top with logo
PE bottoms	Dark coloured sports shorts, tracksuit bottoms or jogging bottoms (minimal branding)
PE trainers	Safe, sensible sports shoes

### **Anthea Bell Prize for Young Translators Competition.**

A little while back, pupils from all years were offered the opportunity to take part in The Anthea Bell Translation Prize competition. Some year 7 and 8 pupils entered the competition organised by Queen's College, Oxford. All entries got submitted and got judged, along with the other 25000 entries from around the UK. Although no winner was from Castle Donington, the judges have commended 5 of our pupils for their exceptional work.

Well done to the following pupils for taking part : Violet A, Macy C, Robyn M, Sienna S, Molly S, Carl B, Spencer J, Luci DeP, and Arvin S.

The pupils commended by the judges are Macy C, Carl B, Spencer J, Luci DeP, and Arvin S. A huge well done to them! Their names will be listed on the prestigious Queen's College website soon. [Anthea Bell Prize for Young Translators - The Queen's College, Oxford](#)

Madame Amyot

## Free School Meals eligibility

From **September 2026**, there will be a significant change to Free School Meals (FSM) eligibility in England: **All children in families receiving Universal Credit will be entitled to free school meals**, regardless of household income. This replaces the current system, where families must earn below a set income threshold to qualify.

From September 2026, your child will be eligible if you receive:

- Universal Credit (no income limit) or certain other benefits (such as Income Support)
- You will still **need to apply/register** for free school meals through your local authority or school.
- Even if your child already receives meals, **eligibility may be rechecked from September 2026**

This change is expected to help hundreds of thousands more children access a healthy school meal each day. Families could save around **£450–£500 per child each year** on lunch costs.

If you receive Universal Credit, we encourage you to check and apply for free school meals ahead of September 2026. [Free School Meals | Leicestershire County Council](#)

## Leicestershire Holiday Activities and Food (HAF) Programme Summer Update

Booking FREE DfE funded Leicestershire Holiday Activities and Food (HAF) sessions is getting easier for parents.

HAF providers offer FREE fun sessions & a meal for children who receive benefit-related school meals (ages 4-16).

Eligible children access FREE HAF funded holiday clubs and take part in activities including sports, arts, dance, games, and music activities, as well as getting a free nutritious meal in the Easter, summer and Christmas school holidays. 11-16 year olds can access a HAF junior gym membership at their local participating leisure centre.

From this summer, the Leicestershire HAF team will no longer be issuing Holiday Activity voucher codes to eligible families. Instead, all HAF eligibility

checks and bookings will happen online through a new HAF platform called EEQU.

here are no codes to remember, and parents can book sessions quickly on a phone, tablet or computer. Accounts are created automatically when they book, with clear confirmations and reminders to help them manage their child's sessions.

Summer bookings are now open. Places are limited, so we encourage parents to book early. To book a place visit <https://eequ.org/leicestershirehaf>

Need help with booking? Click on the [link](#) for a step by step booking guide to help parents book their HAF places.

**Please note that, due to funding constraints, HAF funded places are not available this year for children not in receipt of benefits related free school meals.** Contact the HAF team for more information: [haf@leics.gov.uk](mailto:haf@leics.gov.uk)

## Year Group Specific Information

Year 7	<p><b><u>Pastoral Support</u></b> 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><b>Mrs Smith’s upcoming Spanish assessments:</b> 7CJ – Writing assessment – Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> June - Speaking assessment – Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> June-Wed 1<sup>st</sup> July 7TW – Speaking assessment – Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> June- Thurs 2<sup>nd</sup> July - Writing assessment – Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> July 7NN – Writing assessment – Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> June - Speaking assessment – Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> June – Fri 3<sup>rd</sup> July</p> <p><b>CDC Ambassadors</b> Congratulations to all Year 7 students for their successful Ambassador applications. All students were officially welcomed onto the programme this week and we look forward to seeing them flourish in their new roles.</p>
Year 8	<p><b><u>Pastoral Support</u></b> 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><b>CDC Ambassadors</b> Congratulations to all Year 8 students for their successful Ambassador applications. All students were officially welcomed onto the programme this week and we look forward to seeing them flourish in their new roles.</p> <p><b>Mrs Smith’s upcoming Spanish assessments:</b> 8JD – Speaking assessments – Weds 10<sup>th</sup> June – Weds 24<sup>th</sup> June - Writing assessment – Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> July 8PS – Speaking assessments – Friday 12<sup>th</sup> June – Fri 26<sup>th</sup> June - Writing assessment – Monday 6<sup>th</sup> July 8RH – Speaking assessments – Thurs 11<sup>th</sup> June – Thurs 25<sup>th</sup> June</p>
Year 9	<p><b><u>Pastoral Support</u></b> Please contact your child’s Form Tutor and Head of Year (Mr Canavan) for any further support required in school. We would</p>

	<p>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>CDC Ambassadors</b>          Congratulations to all Year 9 students for their successful Ambassador applications. All students were officially welcomed onto the programme this week and we look forward to seeing them flourish in their new roles.</p> <p>Maths Club is on every Tuesday 3.15-4.15pm in the Maths department for any pupil who would like further support. All pupils are welcome to attend.</p> <p><b>Mrs Smith's upcoming Spanish assessments:</b>          9x1 – Writing assessment – Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> July</p>
Year 10	<p><b><u>Pastoral Support</u></b>          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> <p><b><u>Mock Exams</u></b>          Year 10 mock exams take place during the weeks beginning 15<sup>th</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup> June. An <u>updated version</u> of the full timetable can be viewed further on in this bulletin.          Pupils' subject teachers will be informing pupils of the areas of the specification they need to revise for each exam.</p> <p><b><u>MFL Mock Exams</u></b>          Some exams for Languages will take place in lesson time rather than in the hall/gym. Please be aware of the following dates:  <b>Year 10 Spanish</b>          Foundation Listening exam – Monday 15<sup>th</sup> June          Higher Listening exam – Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> June</p> <p><b>Year 10 French</b>          Reading catch-ups – Monday 15<sup>th</sup> June          Listening exam – Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> June  <b>Please check with your MFL Teacher if you are unsure.</b></p> <p><b><u>French revision sessions</u></b>          Year 10 revision sessions are every other Wednesday (every week 2). Please encourage your child to attend as we will be covering content that will be useful both in lessons and for assessments/exams.</p>

	<p><b><u>Spanish revision sessions</u></b>  KS4 Spanish revision sessions are every Wednesday lunchtime and every Thursday after school. If your child is unable to attend at these times, please contact Mrs Smith to arrange another time slot. Please encourage your child to attend as we will be covering content that will be useful for both Year 10 and 11.</p> <p><b><u>Year 10 Maths</u></b>  To help support Year 10 pupils with their End of Year exams all pupils have been given a question booklet to work through. Pupils are encouraged to work through these booklets at home as well as in school. Class teachers will go through any difficulties in the lesson.</p> <p>In addition to these booklets, pupils are encouraged to watch MathsWatch videos on their identified areas for improvement and attempt the linked interactive questions. Areas of strength and areas for improvement can be found in the pupils Topic Check and Test analysis sheets. All questions on these sheets have linked MathsWatch videos. These sheets are on green paper and can be found in the pupil's exercise book. Maths Club is on every Tuesday 3.15-4.15pm in the Maths department for any pupil who would like further support. All pupils are welcome to attend.</p> <p><b><u>Computer Science GCSE</u></b>  Thursday lunchtimes there is a drop-in session in ICT1, for students to get support with their programming development – currently students are working on their implementation of a Rock, Paper Scissors game.</p>
Year 11	<p><b><u>Pastoral Support</u></b>  We wish our pupils the very best of luck and a well deserved break as they complete their final exams. Please continue to contact your child's Form Tutor and Head of Year (Mr Purkiss) for any further support required from school.</p>

## General Information

### General Information

#### Change to the school day during the exam season

From **Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> May** until **Friday 25<sup>th</sup> June**, the school day will run as follows:

Lesson	Start Time	End Time
Tutor Time	08:45	09:10
Lesson 1	09:10	10:10
Lesson 2	10:10	11:10
<i>BREAK</i>	<i>11:10</i>	<i>11:30</i>
Lesson 3	11:30	12:30
<i>LUNCH</i>	<i>12:30</i>	<i>13:15</i>
Lesson 4	13:15	14:15
Lesson 5	14:15	15:15

#### 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.

For **all** communication with the SEND department, please direct emails to our central SEND inbox – [send@cdcollege.uk](mailto:send@cdcollege.uk)

#### First Aid

Please update the college on any new medication that your child is taking. Please remember that if you are bringing any medication into college it needs to be in prescribed pack with the student's name and prescribed dose on.

We have a first aid email address where you can send any new or updated medical information for your child. [firstaid@cdcollege.uk](mailto:firstaid@cdcollege.uk)

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

### **Wellbeing support**

All pupils have access to youHQ [Wellbeing app for schools and colleges | youHQ.co.uk](https://youHQ.co.uk) they can log in using their @cdcollege.uk email address through the Microsoft 365 log in

You can find out more about youHQ on this youtube video

<https://youtu.be/QyKDZIHmAkI>

### **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.

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

### **Clubs**

#### **MFL Film Club**

Every Thursday lunchtime in L3.

#### **Warhammer Club**

Every Wednesday after school in the Hub, 3:15 till 4:00.

Building, painting and playing. We are currently making our way through the Warhammer Alliance schools project. Speak to Mr Bell if interested.

## **PE clubs/news**

**KS3 Athletics club** – This will now happen every Thursday as we build towards our annual sports day event (30th June). Students can attend Athletics club to practice any athletic event in preparation for sports day.

### **KS4 Boys Fitness club**

The fitness suite is available each Thursday for Year 10 boys to use 3:15-4:15

**Girls' fitness club** every Wednesday till 4 pm

### **Puzzle Club**

Puzzle Club (Tues lunchtimes in the library) needs donations – jigsaws, crosswords, sudoku, word searches, Rubik's Cubes. Any other puzzles you can think of. If you have any taking up space at home, please think about donating them. Thank you.

### **Chess Club**

We are in desperate need of chess sets for our new club starting on Wednesday lunch times. If you would like to purchase one, or maybe you have one that you no longer use, we would be very grateful.

### **Creative Writing Club**

For any budding authors, songwriters and poets. Come along and have a go at writing your very own masterpiece. It's a lovely quiet session but help is on hand if you need it, just ask. Thursday lunch times in the library.

### **Breakfast Club**

Breakfast Club runs every day in the library from 8am. You can come in and chat with your friends, read any of our lovely books, or bring your own, have a game of chess, or just sit quietly before the day begins. We do not provide food, but you are welcome to bring your own.

# Pickleball

## Anyone for Pickleball...

Pickleball is a rapidly growing, low-impact paddle sport that blends elements of tennis, badminton, and table tennis. Played on a badminton-sized court with a lowered net, it uses a solid paddle and a plastic ball with holes, making it easy to learn and accessible to all ages and skill levels.

### Hours...

Mon to Fri  
5pm – 9pm  
Sat & Sun  
9am – 1pm



### Book direct on SchoolHire

<https://schoolhire.co.uk/derby/cdcollege>



### Get started...

**FREE** loan of equipment  
**FREE** set of basic rules

### Price...

Only **£8.80** an hour  
(+ VAT where applicable)



Castle Donington College  
Mount Pleasant  
Castle Donington  
Derbys DE74 2LN

Telephone - 01332 810528 Reception

Email - [lettings@cdcollege.uk](mailto:lettings@cdcollege.uk)

Visit - [www.cdcollege.uk](http://www.cdcollege.uk)



CASTLE DONINGTON COLLEGE



## Hire our BRAND NEW 3G Pitch

### We are now open...

Monday to Friday  
5.00 – 9.00pm  
Saturday and Sunday  
9.00am – 6:00pm



Full size, state of the art 3rd Generation (3G) floodlit football pitch, with the latest artificial grass and rubber crumb surface



Available to hire by local clubs, teams, organisations and general public.

The pitch is marked out with;  
1 x 11-a-side  
1 x 9-a-side  
2 x 7-a-side  
4 x 5-a-side pitches

### Price per hour

**Full Pitch**  
£100.00  
**Half Pitch**  
£50.00  
**Quarter Pitch**  
£25.00

Telephone - 01332 810528 Reception

Email - [lettings@cdcollege.uk](mailto:lettings@cdcollege.uk)

Visit - [www.cdcollege.uk](http://www.cdcollege.uk) **Book direct on SchoolHire**  
<https://schoolhire.co.uk/derby/cdcollege>



# SEND FRIENDS COFFEE MORNING



You are warmly invited to our SEND Support Group for parents and carers of children & young people with special educational needs/disabilities.

10am-11:30am across North West Leicestershire

8th January: Greenhill Family Hub

5th February: Measham Family Hub

12th March: Castle Donington Family Hub

16th April: Greenhill Family Hub

7th May: Measham Family Hub

4th June: Castle Donington Family Hub

2nd July: Greenhill Family Hub

Follow Leicestershire Local Offer  
Facebook Page for updates



# Ready to give rugby a try?

Free non-contact rugby all  
Summer

Under 9 to Under U13 boys & girls  
(Year 4 to Year 8)



- ✓ T1 Rugby: a on-contact game like rugby union
- ✓ Supportive atmosphere for new players
- ✓ Chance for established players to develop skills
- ✓ Lots of fun !

**Contact: Tim Wilbraham**

**07799840482 or [timwilbo@gmail.com](mailto:timwilbo@gmail.com)**

**Melbourne Rugby Club**      **May to**  
**Mondays 6.00 pm to 7.00 pm**      **September**

### Year 10 Mock Exam Timetable June 2026 (updated 21.05.26)

AM Session				Date	PM Session			
Subject	Tiers	Paper / Area of specification	Duration		Subject	Tiers	Paper / Area of specification	Duration
Maths non calculator	F	Paper 1	1h 30min	Wednesday 17th June	Music	N/A	Component 3: Appraising	1h 15m
Maths non calculator	H	Paper 1	1h 30min					
English Literature	N/A	Paper 1	1hr 45min	Thursday 18th June	<b>Option D subjects</b>			
					Design	N/A	Paper 1 modified	1h 15m
					Citizenship	N/A	Paper 2	1h 5m
					PE	N/A	Paper 1 and 2 combined	1hr 30m
Science Combined	F	Biology Paper 1	1h 15m	Friday 19th June	Catch up			
Science Combined	H	Biology Paper 1	1h 15m					
Science Triple	ou	Biology Paper 1	1h 45m					
Science Triple	H	Biology Paper 1	1h 45m					
English Language	N/A	Paper 1	1hr 45min	Monday 22nd June	<b>Option A subjects</b>			
					Geography	N/A	Paper 1	1h 30m
					History	N/A	Paper 1 - Crime and Punishment	1h 15m
					French writing	F	French writing	1h 10m
					French writing	H	French writing	1h 15m
					Spanish writing	F	Spanish writing	1h 10m
					Spanish writing	H	Spanish writing	1h 15m
					PE	N/A	Paper 1 and 2 combined	1 hr 30mins
Science Combined	F	Chemistry Paper 1	1h 15m	Tuesday 23rd June	<b>Option C subjects</b>			
Science Combined	H	Chemistry Paper 1	1h 15m		Drama	N/A	Component 3: Theatre Makers in Practice	1hr 45mins
Science Triple	F	Chemistry Paper 1	1h 45m		Child Development	N/A	Health and wellbeing	1h
Science Triple	H	Chemistry Paper 1	1h 45m		Citizenship	N/A	Paper 2	1h 5m
					Geography	N/A	Paper 1	1h 30m
				History	N/A	Paper 1 - Crime and Punishment	1h 15m	
Catch up (for students not on Design trip)				Wednesday 24th June	Catch up (for students not on Design trip)			
Maths Calculator	F	Paper 2	1h 30min	Thursday 25th June	<b>Option B subjects</b>			
Maths Calculator	H	Paper 2	1h 30min		Computer Science	N/A	OCR J277 Paper 1 and 2 combined	1h 30m
					Design	N/A	Paper 1 modified	1 h 15m
					Food and Nutrition	N/A	Elements of Paper 1	1 h
					Triple Science	F	Physics Paper 1	1h 45m
					Triple Science	H	Physics Paper 2	1h 45m
				Media	N/A	Paper 1 (first section)	1hr	
Catch up				Friday 26th June	Catch up			

## **Year 7- Yorkshire Wildlife Park**

We would like to remind parents and carers of the arrangements for the upcoming college trip on **Tuesday 16th June**.

Students are expected to **arrive at college before 8:45am** to ensure a prompt departure.

What students need to bring:

- A water bottle
- A packed lunch
- A waterproof rain jacket
- Sensible, comfortable footwear

Students must attend in **full school uniform**.

Students may bring spending money for the shop if they wish; however, they are **responsible for managing their own money**.

Return arrangements:

We expect to arrive back at college by **5:00pm**.

Students will need to be **collected from college**, or we must receive **written confirmation in advance** that they are permitted to make their own way home.

Thank you for your continued support.