



CASTLE DONINGTON COLLEGE

WEEKLY PARENT BULLETIN

19th 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.

Last day of term arrangements

School will close at the earlier time of **1:30pm on Friday 10th July**. School buses will depart at 1:35pm.

Pupils can opt to wear non school uniform on the last day of school. Clothing should be appropriate for school.

Key Information for next week

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 5th May to Friday 25th 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

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.

There 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

MFL Creative Awards

Our Trust (EMET) is organising a creative competition to celebrate languages alongside the World Cup. Any students wishing to take part in the Creative Awards, please submit your entries to your MFL teachers by Friday 3rd July. Remember – all entries must be in French or Spanish!



The poster features a dark background with stadium lights at the top. The title 'CREATIVE AWARDS' is written in large, glowing white letters. In the top right corner, the 'East Midlands Education Trust' logo is displayed. Below the title, there are three award categories, each with a representative image and a description box.

CREATIVE AWARDS

East Midlands Education Trust

Journalist / Commentator of the Tournament

Match reports, live commentary, interviews, player analysis, tournament predictions in video, written, or audio format.

"Discovering the World" Award

Explore a World Cup nation: language, traditions, football culture, famous players, food, landmarks, and cultural facts.

Most Creative Entry Award

Football chants or songs, artwork, digital designs, comics, videos, or other creative projects linked to languages and culture.

Year Group Specific Information

Year 7	<p>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.</p> <p>Mrs Smith's upcoming Spanish assessments: 7CJ – Writing assessment – Wednesday 17th June - Speaking assessment – Tuesday 23rd June-Wed 1st July 7TW – Speaking assessment – Thursday 18th June- Thurs 2nd July - Writing assessment – Thursday 2nd July 7NN – Writing assessment – Wednesday 24th June - Speaking assessment – Tuesday 30th June – Fri 3rd July</p>
Year 8	<p>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.</p> <p>Mrs Smith's upcoming Spanish assessments: 8JD – Speaking assessments – Weds 10th June – Weds 24th June - Writing assessment – Thursday 2nd July 8PS – Speaking assessments – Friday 12th June – Fri 26th June - Writing assessment – Monday 6th July 8RH – Speaking assessments – Thurs 11th June – Thurs 25th June</p>
Year 9	<p>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.</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>Mrs Smith's upcoming Spanish assessments: 9x1 – Writing assessment – Thursday 2nd July</p>

Year 10	<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> <p><u>Mock Exams</u></p> <p>Year 10 mock exams take place during the weeks beginning 15th and 22nd June. An <u>updated version</u> of the full timetable can be viewed further on in this bulletin.</p> <p>Pupils' subject teachers will be informing pupils of the areas of the specification they need to revise for each exam.</p> <p><u>MFL Mock Exams</u></p> <p>Some exams for Languages will take place in lesson time rather than in the hall/gym. Please be aware of the following dates:</p> <p>Year 10 Spanish</p> <p>Foundation Listening exam – Monday 15th June Higher Listening exam – Wednesday 24th June</p> <p>Year 10 French</p> <p>Reading catch-ups – Monday 15th June Listening exam – Wednesday 10th June</p> <p>Please check with your MFL Teacher if you are unsure.</p> <p><u>French revision sessions</u></p> <p>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><u>Spanish revision sessions</u></p> <p>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><u>Year 10 Maths</u></p> <p>To help support Year 10 pupils with their End of Year exams all pupils have been given a question booklet to work through.</p> <p>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>
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	<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.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>These sheets are on green paper and can be found in the pupil's exercise book.</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><u>Computer Science GCSE</u></p> <p>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> <p><u>Art and Design university trip Wednesday 24th June</u></p> <p>Year 10 Art, Graphics and Textiles students are going on a visit to De Montfort University to see their Degree show. This is a great opportunity to see degree level work in their GCSE subjects as well as get an experience of what a university campus is like. There is also a chance to visit Leicester Art Gallery and Museum. Students have found this trip really useful as a way to see how they can develop their own work but also provide aspirations to go into higher education.</p>
Year 11	<p><u>Pastoral Support</u></p> <p>We wish our pupils the very best of luck and a well deserved break now they have completed their final exams.</p> <p>Please continue to contact your child's Form Tutor and Head of Year (Mr Purkiss) for any further support required from school.</p> <p><u>Prom: Friday 26th June 2026</u></p> <p>Year 11 Prom will take place at Derby County Football Club (Dave Mackay Lounge). Access is located next to the main entrance of the football ground. Staff will be present to direct your child.</p> <p>This will be a joyous occasion, and a fitting way to celebrate. The Prom is scheduled from 7 until 11pm, with students able to arrive at the venue from 6.30pm.</p>

As in previous years, it will be great to see so many of you welcoming your children to the venue.

As previously stated in communication, a reminder responsibility for transport arrangements to and from the venue is parental responsibility.

GCSE Results Day: 20th August 2026

Below is key information regarding GCSE Results Day Thursday 20th August 2026.

- The College will be open from **9:00am-10:30am**.
- Students will collect their results from the hall. Please note, only the students may enter the hall. We kindly ask that parents and carers wait in the foyer or outside the building.
- Before leaving with their results, **students must complete an 'Access to Scripts'** consent form (provided on the day).
- Students must give their full legal name and sign the collection sheet.
- If you or your child have any concerns or queries about their results, they should speak to a member of staff on the day. The Examinations Officer, members of SLT and subject teachers will all be available on the day. (*Students are not permitted to contact the awarding bodies directly. These must be made to school staff initially.*)

If your child is unable to collect their results on 20th August

We would very much like your child to come into school to collect their results.

Results will not be given out over the telephone.

If your son/daughter is unable to collect their results in person on the day, there are three options available:

1. If your child has downloaded and activated their Education Record App (they will have done this using their mobile phone with a member of staff at school), then their results will be available to view from 11:00am on Thursday 20th August.
2. Your son/daughter can arrange for someone to collect their results for them, but they must write an authorisation letter giving details on who will collect on their behalf. The authorised person must be over the age of 18 and will need to bring this letter and proof of identity.

	<p>3. Your child can request that the results are sent by email – Results will be sent out after 12pm on Thursday 20th August. Please contact school at examinations@cdcollege.uk if you would like results to be sent out by email. We will then telephone you to confirm this request.</p> <p>4. Your child can collect their results from school when term begins.</p>
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General Information

General Information

Change to the school day during the exam season

From **Tuesday 5th May** until **Friday 25th 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 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.

For **all** communication with the SEND department, please direct emails to our central SEND inbox – 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

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/QyKDZIHmAkl>

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

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.

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.

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

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

Visit - 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

Visit - 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



Year 10 Mock Exam Ti

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	Option D subjects			
					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	Option A subjects			
					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	Option C subjects			
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	Option B subjects			
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			