

Dear Applicants,

### Your summer independent learning activities

We understand that it's a long time between finishing your normal lessons in school and starting your courses with us in September. In order to help you hit the ground running, our teachers are busy preparing for you a package of work for each of the subjects you have chosen – we call this your *summer independent learning*. We're planning to send you a link to this work, which you'll be able to download on our website, and we're aiming to get this to you by **Friday 22 May**, which is much earlier than normal. This work will help to consolidate some of your learning from GCSE and will introduce topics you will study with us in September.

This important work will form the basis of the initial assessments students will complete at the very start of the autumn term. Your summer independent learning tasks, your initial assessments and your GCSE grades will all be reviewed early in the autumn term to help us to establish any additional support needs and to finalise the course choices made at your enrolment interview.

In the meantime, between now and Friday 22 May, we would strongly encourage you to continue working on subjects studied at GCSE and to complete activities provided to you by your school. Although you may not have exams to complete this summer, it is important that you continue to deepen your understanding of your GCSE subjects so that you are ready to start level 3 courses in September. We would particularly like to stress the importance of GCSE English, which is critical for all of our courses, and GCSE mathematics and science, for which minimum grades, knowledge and understanding are needed for a large number of our A level and BTEC courses.

### Still awaiting an interview?

If you have already attended an interview at New College and received a conditional offer for September, there is nothing further for you to do at this stage and we will be in touch with you about next steps later in the year.

If you have applied but not yet had an interview with us, we are currently making arrangements for you to have a telephone interview during the summer term. We expect these to start after the Easter holidays and most are likely to be complete by the end of May. We will have a large number of interviews to carry out over this period so we are grateful for your patience.

A member of the team will contact you and will give you the option of either carrying out your interview over the phone there and then, or to arrange a convenient alternative time if you prefer. These are very informal conversations and nothing at all for you to worry about.

In normal circumstances we would ask you to complete your medical form and bring this to your interview. We will complete your medical form with you during your telephone interview, but we would appreciate it if you could look carefully at the questions we will ask you in advance by visiting <https://bit.ly/2UKWvjx> or by using the following QR code.



## How will the current situation affect enrolment and course choices?

We are hopeful that things will be getting back to normal by August and we continue to plan our enrolment days, as follows:

New College Bradford:	Thursday 20 <sup>th</sup> and Friday 21 <sup>st</sup> August
New College Doncaster:	Wednesday 26 <sup>th</sup> and Thursday 27 <sup>th</sup> August
New College Pontefract:	Wednesday 26 <sup>th</sup> and Thursday 27 <sup>th</sup> August

We will let you know nearer the time whether it is possible for us to run our planned induction days in July.

The government, Ofqual and the examinations boards have expressed a clear commitment to ensuring that students are awarded the grades they deserve this summer. Although these grades will be influenced by teachers, the exam board will be determining the final grades and will also take into consideration issues such as the prior attainment of individual students, a school's historical results, and the overall distribution of results nationally. We are therefore confident that the grades awarded to students will continue to be a fair and accurate indication of each student's attainment. With this in mind, the conditional offers we have made to students continue unaffected and we are not planning to make any changes to the minimum entry criteria for each of our courses.

Decisions made on the enrolment days will be based on the GCSE results awarded in July. For the small number of students that might choose to appeal their results, or who may opt to sit exams in the autumn term, any requests for changes at a later stage will depend on timing, grades awarded and remaining course availability.

If you have had your interview but changed your mind about the subjects you wish to study, please email [studentservices@nclt.ac.uk](mailto:studentservices@nclt.ac.uk).

## Looking forward to the future

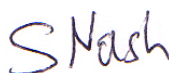
We know that this is a strange and difficult time for you, as it is for all of us. However, this situation is temporary, and we are excited at the prospect of welcoming you to New College in the new academic year.

We encourage you to keep working on your GCSE subjects in the weeks ahead so that you feel ready and confident about your knowledge and understanding when you join us in September.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact us at [studentservices@nclt.ac.uk](mailto:studentservices@nclt.ac.uk)

We hope to see you very soon,

Stuart Nash



Principal  
New College Bradford

Brendon Fletcher



Principal  
New College Doncaster

Vicky Marks



Principal  
New College Pontefract