

KC PARENTS COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

Welcome to the KC Parents Community!

This is our new newsletter for parents to keep you informed about what is happening at Kirklees College each term and any important information you need to know.

The first half term has been a busy one but we hope all our students have settled into their courses and are enjoying their studies. If you have any concerns about your young person at college, please do not hesitate to contact either their Study Programme Lead or their Pastoral Mentor.

College Term Dates

College closes for the Christmas break on Friday 16 December will remain fully closed at all centres until we reopen on Wednesday 4 January 2023.

Please refer to our website for the full list of term dates.



Parent Portal and Next of Kin Information

Don't forget that you can view your young person's progress via Parent Portal through the college website. Information will have been sent to the parental email address provided at enrolment. If you don't have access, please email Jo Knowles, jo.knowles@kirkleescollege.ac.uk with the email address and mobile phone number you would like to be registered with and the name and student number of your young person. You will then be sent a link to pro-portal. This mobile phone number will also be used as our emergency next of kin contact.

What is Century?

Century is an online resource for English and maths that creates personalised learning activities for students following the completion of a short diagnostic assessment online. This can identify areas of development for them, support completing homework and provide revision techniques.

All students are timetabled for one-hour independent study a week on Century and we would appreciate your support in encouraging students to complete this activity.

To log on, students can use their college email address. The password is auto-set to password1 and then asks them to set their own password.

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Reporting an Absence

As a parent/carer, you can help us by ensuring your young person takes responsibility for reporting any absence, exactly the same as if they were in employment. To help us accurately record student absence, please use the following methods:

Email: **studentabsence@kirkleescollege.ac.uk**
Text: **07860097457** before first lesson of the day using **ONE** of the following buzz words:

REASONS FOR ABSENCE	REASON / DESCRIPTION
SICK	If unwell, we do not need details of the actual illness
STUCK	Problems with getting to college because of transport or child care
MEDICAL	Doctors/hospital/dental/optician etc. appointments
FORMAL	NUS work/probation/court appearance/job interview
RESPECT	Bereavement/funeral of close family member
LATE	If you are delayed coming into college

Type **ONE** of the reasons for absence words and the student enrolment number, using the format below:

MEDICAL (*space*) enrolment number
E.g. MEDICAL 1804652

Please do not send other information to this text number. This is a no reply number and your message will not be received.

Exam Access Arrangements

Is your young person eligible for Exam Access Arrangements?

This could be for example:

- Rest break
- Extra time
- Reader/scribe
- Use of a laptop/computer
- Assistive technology
- Adapted resources

The deadline for referrals was Friday 28 October for courses starting in September/October. New diagnosis or previously unidentified medical needs will be assessed and processed in a timely manner. We will still accept your request but please note it may not get processed for this academic year. If you had support and your needs have not changed then you do not need to re-apply.

The Exams team and SEND team are working closely with curriculum teams to arrange access arrangements assessments for students that require them. Please can you encourage your young person to attend any appointment they may receive as appointments are limited and we need to maximise utilisation of them.



To request an assessment speak to your tutor, or contact the SEND department.

UCAS 2022/23

For students wanting to apply via UCAS please be aware of the following deadlines

- College UCAS deadline to allow tutors to complete references etc. is **9 December 2022**
- UCAS set application deadline is **25 January 2023**
- Student Finance applications open **February 2023**
- UCAS Extra / Clearing opens **23 February** or late applications or students with no offers

Careers Service

Kirklees College Careers team provide impartial expert information, advice and guidance to help students make the best decisions for them on learning, training and work.

Students can either drop in to see the Careers team or book an appointment and we can arrange for a phone call, email or teams meeting, whatever suits the student's needs.

Our careers advisors are based at the Huddersfield Centre but we do provide support to students at all of the college centres. The team also organise careers fairs for Employability Week, National Apprenticeship Week and Higher Education (HE) Week, as well as providing UCAS support for those wishing to progress to university.

What's happened this term?

Welcome Fairs

We hosted Welcome Fairs across all our centres to welcome new students to college. There were a range of enrichment activities and pop-up stalls from Kirklees College Careers, Locala Health & Wellbeing, KAL Leisure Centres, Kirklees Council and The Base Kirklees to showcase the opportunities and support available to our students.



What's happened this term?

Colleges Week 2022

Kirklees College celebrated Colleges Week from 17 – 21 October.

The college celebrated this year's theme of 'Students, Staff and Skills' by sharing students' achievements and the positive contributions the college has made to the local community.



We celebrated this special campaign with Have a Go Skills Fairs across the week at each centre, with staff and students coming forward to share a new skill with their peers.



Graduation

On Wednesday 19 October we hosted our Graduation Ceremony at Dewsbury Town Hall for our Higher Education students.

65 students from the classes of 2020, 2021 and 2022 came together on the day to celebrate their successes with musical performances Eastborough Junior Infant and Nursery School and Boothroyd Primary Academy.

Claire Paxman from Paxman Coolers was the guest speaker and gave an inspirational speech, highlighting how Further Education has helped her own personal and professional development. We were also joined by special guests from the Skills and Education Group and TQUK.

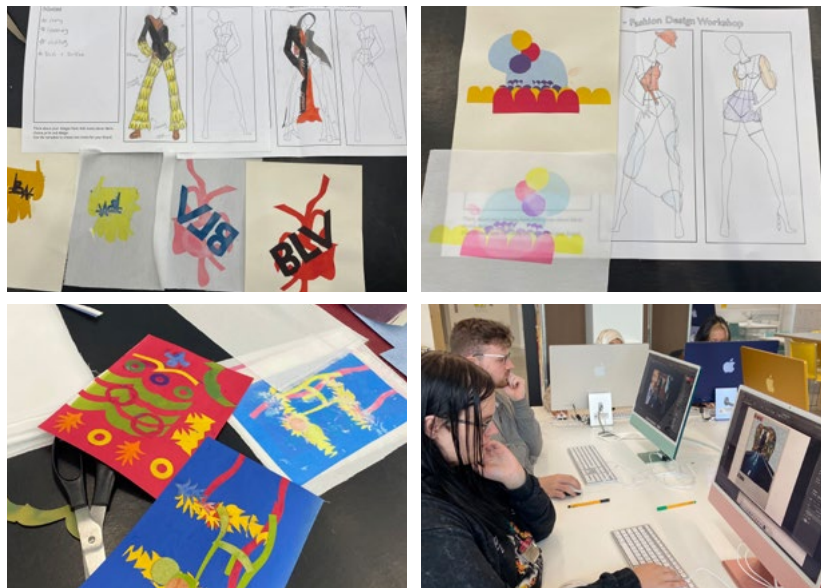


What's happened this term?

Huddersfield University Taster Day

Our Creative Industries students were invited to Huddersfield University for a taster day to see if university was the right route for them and the options available.

The students participated in workshops with the university tutors in various different creative subjects, including working on graphics and creating fashion designs using heat transfer methods to create logos and designs from their templates.



Deluxe Beds Visits Business Students

As part of a module on the Business Environment, Bilaal Razak, former Kirklees College Business student and now Supply Chain Manager at Deluxe Beds in Huddersfield, delivered a presentation to the HNC Business students. Bilaal spoke about organisational structures and the impact of their new sustainability and recycling project, which won a Kirklees Diversity Award in the Diverse Business category.

