Dear parents / carers

Welcome back to the regular parent/college communications. I hope your young people had a restful half term break.  It’s been a busy first week back with Maths and English re-sit GCSE exams taking place and one-to-ones continuing in tutorial. You should have received your young person’s first progress report over half term.  This reports on their current ‘working at’ grade and skills, including attitude to learning.  If you haven’t received this, please contact reporting@nelsongroup.ac.uk.

Below are the key notices and activities which tutors will be sharing with students next week:

**University applications**

The deadline for all Level 3 Year 2 and A level year 2 students who are wanting to progress to university next year is looming. Our own internal college deadline is **25th November**. To help support your young person in their applications, we are holding an online parents information evening at 6pm on Monday 7th November. You should have received a link to a booking form regarding this and invites to attend the Teams meeting should arrive with you today. If you haven’t booked on and would like to attend please complete the booking form asap or email student services on studentservices@nelsongroup.ac.uk   Our own college also has a substantial higher education (university) offer and we have an open event next Wednesday 9th November from 3 to 7pm at our Accrington campus. There are lots of benefits of studying locally and we would encourage you to consider our offer.

**Bursary**

We still have a significant number of students who have made a bursary application but not provided the necessary financial evidence.  Please contact student services or drop into reception at college any day of the week to progress this, if your young person is struggling with using the ‘paymystudent’ app on MyDay.

**Health and wellbeing**

There has been a focus in in tutorials this week on firework safety, following a very serious incident in the area last year. Please do support us in keeping young people safe by discussing this topic with them.

**Learn to Learn**

Remember that our students our introduced to a “learn to learn” module in tutorials each week.  This week the topic was “retrieval practice”. At it’s simplest this means asking students what they remember. Retrieval is based on the idea that if we keep retrieving something from memory it helps it to get easier to recall it and apply it again in the future. The more we retrieve it we will develop a deeper understanding, consolidate learning, and transfer it into long term memory. If your young person tells you they ‘have no work to do’, suggest they engage in some revision practice!

Finally, for your information, there is a staff CPD day on **Friday 11th November.** The college will be closed to students on this day.

Enjoy your weekend 😊

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