

# PARENTS' AND CARERS' NEWSLETTER

JUNE 2026



## Andrew Cropley

Principal and  
Chief Executive Officer

As the academic year draws to a close, with staff and students focused on deadlines, examinations, and next steps, it's a good time to take a breath and reflect on what has been achieved so far.

Despite record student numbers, the team has continued to deliver high-quality teaching, well-planned learning experiences, and strong preparation for the next stage of students' careers. Our employer partnerships continue to grow and create new opportunities. The Gene Haas Academy now supports almost 40 students, and the AF Switchgear Academy has successfully launched its first two cohorts. Our annual takeover of Thoresby Hall Hotel and Spa was as successful as ever, while Create students worked with a professional production company to produce a short film supporting the Home Office-funded Prevent programme. Our T Level in Design, Surveying and Planning for Construction students created a new memorial garden at Mansfield Community Hospital, while hair and beauty students provided services for long-term patients on site.

We were proud to be named Nottinghamshire "Business of the

Year" by the East Midlands Chamber of Commerce for our Gene Haas Centre for Advanced Manufacturing, which also won "Excellence in Collaboration". Our supported internship programme with Capita was named "Education and Business Partnership" of the year, and at the Discover Ashfield Awards, the Gene Haas Centre was again recognised as "Best Skills Provider", with Project SEARCH named runner-up.

One common theme surrounding all these partnerships is about creating opportunities for our students to secure rewarding and sustained employment and then to help them transition successfully into these jobs. In response to a tighter job market, we have established our own recruitment agency, which works with employers at no cost to encourage opportunities for our students. It also works with our curriculum teams to ensure that we identify the best candidates and then support them to move successfully into work. With around 800 students aiming to enter employment this summer, early signs are very promising.

For those not securing work immediately, we are working hard to provide an offer of continued support

with in-college support through a summer Job Club, helping with CVs, applications, interviews, and continued skills development, including for those in part-time work seeking more hours.

Looking ahead, the next academic year will be busy but with reduced building work. Our new Building Services Training Centre in Sutton-in-Ashfield will be completed, alongside other recent projects. Motor vehicle is now fully-established in its dedicated facility, and brickwork, carpentry and joinery, and painting and decorating have returned to Station Park - Construction, and the new roof and windows look resplendent at the Sixth Form College on Chesterfield Road.

We expect that many courses will fill up quickly, so please encourage your young person to attend the designated enrolment event, especially if they are changing curriculum subject.

Meanwhile, I hope you have a great summer break when it comes and wish everyone who is awaiting results every success when the day arrives.

# COLLEGE NEWS



## AN ACTION-PACKED WELCOME TO WEST NOTTS COLLEGE

New and returning students enjoyed ice-breaker sessions, team-building activities, days out, and welcomed guest speakers to mark the beginning of a new academic year.

[Read the full story](#)



## COLLEGE WINS BUSINESS OF THE YEAR ACCOLADE AT PRESTIGIOUS AWARDS CEREMONY

West Nottinghamshire College has been crowned Business of the Year at the Nottinghamshire Business Awards 2025/26 in recognition of the transformational impact of its Gene Haas Centre for Advanced Manufacturing.

[Read the full story](#)



## COLLEGE CELEBRATES MULTIPLE WINS AT DISCOVER ASHFIELD AWARDS

West Nottinghamshire College is celebrating after being recognised across multiple categories at the latest Discover Ashfield Awards.

[Read the full story](#)



## NEXT GENERATION OF TALENT SHINES IN THORESBY HALL HOTEL TAKEOVER

Newly reimagined Thoresby Hall welcomed a new cohort of students from the college as 30 learners took part in the fifth annual 'hotel takeover' at the historic venue.

[Read the full story](#)



## MEDIA STUDENTS VISIT AUSCHWITZ ON POWERFUL EDUCATION TRIP

Content, Media and Film Production students have taken part in a moving two-day educational visit to Auschwitz in Poland, reinforcing the institution's ongoing commitment to Holocaust education and remembrance.

[Read the full story](#)



## LIVES OF TOP CREATIVES INSPIRE NEXT GENERATION OF ARTISTS

The college proudly hosted its ninth annual Create Expo on Friday 27th February, welcoming leading creative and digital industry professionals to inspire students and young people from across the region.

[Read the full story](#)



## COLLEGE AND WELBECK ESTATE LAUNCH WORK PLACEMENT PARTNERSHIP AT CUCKNEY HOUSE

We have launched a new work placement initiative with the historic Welbeck Estate, with the first two travel and tourism students beginning their hands-on experience at Cuckney House, the estate's Grade II listed Georgian manor.

[Read the full story](#)

# ADULT LEARNING AND SKILLS



West Nottinghamshire College  
Adult Learning and Skills



## A NEW SKILL COULD CHANGE EVERYTHING

Whether you're looking for a fun hobby, want to explore the latest AI and future-ready skills, or are aiming to advance your career with professional qualifications, West Notts College has a course for you.

Why not find out more about the opportunities available at our free online **Adult Learning Live Chat**, designed specifically for adults aged 19+?

Join us on **Thursday 25 June from 2-7pm** and chat directly with our friendly advisors from the comfort of your own home. There are no presentations and no pressure – just the chance to ask questions, explore your options, and discover where learning could take you.

No question is too big or too small. Whether you're considering a career change, returning to education, or simply interested in learning something new, we're here to help you take the next step.

To book your place and find out how to join the live chat, simply follow this link and **book your place today**:

## YOUTH GUARANTEE

Funded by UK Government



## LOOKING TO GET BACK INTO EDUCATION OR EMPLOYMENT?

Do you know a young person aged 19–21 who could benefit from extra support to take their next step?

Our **Flexible Pathways to Employment** programme is designed to help young people build the skills, confidence, and experience they need to move forward in education, training, or work.

Learners will:

- Build confidence and self-belief
- Develop employability skills
- Explore career options
- Gain valuable work experience
- Progress into further training, education, or employment

Delivered in a flexible and supportive environment, this programme is tailored to help young people achieve their goals at a pace that works for them.

To find out more and get started, [click here](#).

# Careers and Employability



## CAREERS SUPPORT FOR COLLEGE LEAVERS

The Careers Team is continuing to offer a range of support sessions throughout June for students who are preparing to leave college and are seeking employment, apprenticeship opportunities, or careers advice.

We would appreciate your support in encouraging your young person to take advantage of these valuable sessions, which can help them make informed decisions about their next steps.

Students can receive support with:

- CV reviews and improvements
- Registering with recruitment agencies
- Creating and optimising LinkedIn profiles
- Setting up job alerts on recruitment websites
- Searching and applying for apprenticeships
- General careers advice and guidance

Students will also have the opportunity to meet with the college's recruitment agency partners and apprenticeship advisers to find out about current vacancies and opportunities available to them

### Derby Road Campus Sessions

Students can drop into the Learning Resource Centre (LRC) between 10am-12pm or 1-3pm on the following dates:

- Monday 8 June | am only
- Wednesday 10 June | am only
- Friday 12 June | am only
- Tuesday 16 June | pm only
- Thursday 18 June | am only
- Monday 22 June | am only
- Wednesday 24 June | pm only
- Friday 26 June | am only

To help us ensure sufficient computer access in the LRC, places should be booked in advance using the college booking form.

If your young person is unable to attend any of the scheduled sessions, they can arrange an alternative appointment by visiting the Careers Office (Room 101, next to Derby Road Reception) or by emailing [careers@wnc.ac.uk](mailto:careers@wnc.ac.uk).

# Careers and Employability

## DATES FOR JUNE 2026

### Station Park - Motor Vehicle

- Wednesday 10 | 1-3pm
- Monday 15 | 10am-12pm
- Tuesday 16 | 10am-12pm
- Wednesday 17 | 1-3pm
- Monday 22 | 10am-12pm
- Tuesday 23 | 10am-12pm
- Wednesday 24 | 1-3pm

### Engineering - Gene Haas Centre for Advanced Manufacturing

- Wednesday 10 | 10am-12pm
- Monday 15 | 1-3pm
- Tuesday 16 | 1-3pm
- Monday 22 | 1-3pm
- Tuesday 23 | 1-3pm

### Business and professional construction - Mansfield Ambition Exchange

- Thursday 11 | All day
- Monday 15 | All day
- Wednesday 17 | All day
- Monday 22 | All day
- Wednesday 25 | All day

### Sixth Form College - Chesterfield Road

- Tuesday 16 | 10am-3pm
- Thursday 25 | 10am-3pm

### Station Park - Construction

- Thursday 11 | 10am-12pm
- Thursday 18 | 10am-12pm
- Thursday 25 | 10am-12pm

### Construction - Portland Square

- Wednesday 10 | 10am-12pm
- Monday 15 | 10am-12pm
- Wednesday 17 | 1-3pm
- Monday 22 | 10am-12pm

### Construction - Old Brewery

- Friday 12 | lunch/break time
- Friday 19 | lunch/break time
- Tuesday 23 | 1-3pm