Dear parents / carers

As we approach the end of the spring term, our learners are starting to focus on end of year assignments and examinations to give themselves as much chance as possible to progress onto their next steps, be that in college, into work/apprenticeship or higher education. Please find some key messages and dates which you may find helpful to know. It would be appreciated if you could discuss these with your young person.

**Term dates**

The spring term finishes at the end of the day on Thursday 28th March for the Easter break.  The summer term commences on Monday 15th April.  Do ask your young person if they have been invited to attend any revision sessions and workshops over Easter. It is also worth noting that the library will be open for students at regular points over the Easter break, should students wish to come into college to complete independent work and/or revision. Precise opening times will be shared with students in tutorials before Easter

**English and Maths**

If your young person is studying for their GCSE English and/or Maths qualification, the dates of the exam are below.  Please help us to ensure that they attend their exams; English and Maths are the most important qualifications that  your young person has as they provide the key to progressing into jobs and/or Higher Education

* GCSE Maths Paper 1 (non-calculator) 16 May
* GCSE English Language  Paper 1 23rd May
* GCSE Maths Paper 2 (calculator) 3 June
* GCSE English Language Paper 2 6 June

**Misuse of mobile phones**

There seems to be an increasing number of students who are using their phones to record videos in college with the intention of sharing them onto social media sites. Please help us the reinforce the message that it is not appropriate to record other students or staff in college without their consent. This type of activity should take place outside of college time and premises as it is not for educational purposes.

**Bus passes**

We have been informed that the app used for students to use their bus passes - Transdev Go app -  will be changing and all students will need to download the new app by end of March. This is just advanced information at this time and will share more details and instructions as soon as we have received them.

If you have any questions or queries, please contact your young person’s tutor in the first instance.

**Fionnuala Swann** IAssistant Principal (Academic)

Centre Principal (Nelson campus)