

Monday 9th December 2024

Dear Parent/Carer

Re: Information regarding arrangements for the end of term and return in the New Year January 2025

I write to you to outline key information about the final two weeks of term as we approach the Christmas period.

I would like to inform you that the PRU will close **on Friday 20th December 2024** to all students beginning with a staggered dismissal from 12:30pm onwards for the Christmas holiday.

Please find below key dates for your information:

Date	Event
Friday 20 th December 2024	PRU closes to all students – Staggered dismissal from 12:30pm
Monday 23 rd December 2024 - Friday 3 rd January 2025	PRU closed to all students (Christmas Holiday)
Monday 6 th January 2025	PRU closed to all students (Teacher training Day)
Tuesday 7 th January 2025	School re-opens to all students at 9:00am

All of our students have impressed us so far this term since September. We are very pleased with improving student attendance levels, standards of PRU uniform and also how well they have bought into our whole school culture of the 4 R's (Respect, Responsibility, Resilience and Rewards). This can be seen in our calm corridors during lesson times and particularly in the high quality of work evident in student books.

I would like to extend my thanks to each of you who took the time to complete our November parent/carers survey. A separate link in the text message for this letter can be clicked on in order to see the collated results. One area which you have asked us to improve on further is letting you know exactly what your child is learning in school. Although this is available in detail on the PRU website, a separate link with the text for this letter will take you to a summary document outlining what they have covered so far and also what they will be studying next half term.

In terms of other developments here at the PRU this term I am pleased to inform you that we have been successful in winning a bid to secure additional funding to help us expand and improve our extra-curricular activities offer. This award has allowed us to start offering our students the opportunity to attend an enrichment activity which also reflects our school culture. The enrichment activities included the following from December 2024:

1. Football - lead by a current professional footballer
2. Boxing (non-contact) - lead by a local qualified amateur boxer
3. Cycling - lead by our own trained staff and Bikeability. To include Maintenance - road and off-road cycling
4. Forest School - lead by our own trained staff

Our Year 11 students deserve special recognition as last week they successfully completed their first ever attempt at full GCSE mock examinations. They have also begun visiting post-16 colleges in order to identify the right courses and next steps in preparation for leaving the PRU in the summer. We will continue to support students next term as we approach the final exams starting in May 2025.

May I take this opportunity to thank you all for your on-going co-operation with our policy of not authorising student holidays during term time. You will be pleased to know that your support continues to have the desired effect with improvements to our attendance figures which has enabled our figures for unauthorised absences to continue to be reduced.

Finally, may I take this opportunity on behalf of everyone at Northumberland PRU to wish you and your family our very best wishes over the festive period.

Yours faithfully

R.L. Carr

Richard Carr
Headteacher