

## NIA 6 Updates



All of the previous NIA6 newsletters can be found in the news section on the Sixth Form website.

### [Attendance Matters](#)

Following feedback from students, we have introduced an updated reward system to continue promoting excellent attendance and punctuality. From now on, students will receive a Dress Down Day every other week, with a movie afternoon at NIA6 taking place on the alternate weeks.

This initiative recognises students who are on time every day, on time to every lesson, and who attend every day. With examinations now underway, strong

attendance and punctuality are more important than ever to ensure students are fully prepared and supported.

Year 12 attendance this week was 95.6%, with 27 late marks recorded. Year 13 attendance remained at 89.0%, with 66 late marks, with punctuality continuing to be a key focus.



## Examinations

Examinations are a crucial part of the Sixth Form journey and provide students with the opportunity to demonstrate the knowledge, skills, and understanding developed throughout their courses. Being well prepared, organised, and punctual is essential for success.

Students are reminded to continue with regular, planned revision and to ensure they arrive promptly for all examinations. Morning exams require arrival by 8:30am for a 9:00am start, and afternoon exams require arrival by 1:00pm for a 1:30pm start. All exams are based at NIA, so students should allow sufficient travel time.

It is also vital that students arrive with the correct equipment for each exam, including black pens, calculators (where permitted), rulers, pencils, and any subject-specific equipment. Being fully prepared helps reduce anxiety and ensures students can focus entirely on their performance.

## Revision and study skills

Strong revision habits help students feel confident, organised, and in control, while also reducing stress during the examination period. Effective revision should be active, structured, and consistent rather than last-minute or rushed.

Successful strategies include creating realistic revision timetables that prioritise weaker topics, using flashcards for key definitions and processes, completing past paper questions under timed conditions, and regularly self-quizzing. Producing mind maps or summary sheets can also help condense information and strengthen recall.

Good study skills also include revising in a distraction-free environment, breaking revision into manageable sessions, taking planned breaks, and maintaining a healthy balance between work, rest, and wellbeing.

There will be some revision sessions over the half-term break in the NIA main building:

Year 13: Music	Tuesday AM (11-1pm)	LTD	163
Year 13: Chemistry	Tuesday AM (9am – 12)		156
Year 13: Business	Tuesday PM	RME	214

### UCAS launch – Year 12

This week marked an important milestone for our Year 12 students, as they began the process of signing up to UCAS. This is the first step in their journey towards higher education and future career pathways. Beginning the UCAS process early allows students time to carefully consider their options, explore courses, and make informed decisions about their next steps. Over the coming weeks, and continuing after the holidays, NIA6 staff will be working closely with students to guide them through every stage of the application process. This support will include:

- Navigating the UCAS website
- Researching universities and courses
- Understanding entry requirements
- Beginning preparations for personal statements

We encourage all students to engage fully with this process, taking advantage of the guidance available to ensure they make confident and well-informed choices about their future.





### Highlight on a Subject – BTEC Level 3 Travel and Tourism

Studying a BTEC in travel and Tourism offers an exciting and practical pathway into one of the world's fastest growing industries. It allows us as students that study the subject to explore global cultures, airline operations, and a wide range of tourist destinations, helping us understand how the tourism sector really works in practice. A key advantage of this course is that it combines coursework with real-world applications, giving us the opportunity to develop skills through projects and realistic scenarios rather than relying heavily on final exams. I particularly enjoy the hands-on nature of the course and the chance to investigate real travel businesses and

destinations. It also builds highly transferable skills in communication, customer service, and business, which are valued across many careers. Overall, a BTEC in Travel and Tourism is both engaging and worthwhile, opening doors to future opportunities in a dynamic global industry. - Raluca

## Opportunities



**Lloyds Banking Group - May Half Term Virtual Work Experience**  
Friday 29th May - 1pm - 3:45pm

Join us for the Lloyds Banking Group Virtual May Half Term Work Experience for a fast-paced afternoon of challenges, real-world scenarios and networking with professionals from across the industry. Lloyds Banking Group are one of the largest banks in the UK and offers so many fantastic opportunities to students across the UK. This hands-on experience is designed to help you build the skills employers are looking for within the industry.

**What will you take part in?**

- Hands-on practical workshops developing your problem-solving, teamwork, and decision-making skills
- Network with Lloyds Banking Group team members
- How to spot financial crime and how banks spot these threats
- Live panel and Q&A

**Why Join?**

- Build confidence in real-world situations
- Develop skills employers value
- Learn how to spot opportunities whilst at school/college
- Something great to add to your CV

**Key Event Details:**

- Friday 29th May
- 1pm - 3:45pm
- Online live-streamed via YouTube
- Open to all students in school/college

**What you get out of it?**

This is a high energy, interactive virtual experience built to boost your skills, confidence and career awareness! Upskill yourself, learn new things and build your network

1 - Apply Here! Lloyds Banking Group May Half-Term Virtual Event (Via YouTube) Survey

Barclays Career insight day - Key Information

Date: All day, In-person Wed 22nd July. Followed by a short virtual webinar on Thursday, 23rd July.

Location: Barclays, 1234 Pavilion Drive, Northampton NN4 7SG (A free coach will be provided from Northampton train station to the venue)

(Please note that, sadly, we do not have travel funds available for this event, so please check your travel distance and cost before committing)

Deadline to apply: 30th June

Application Link: Barclays Northampton Application Form

### Key Application Criteria:

- Year 13 students (Very strong year 12 applications will be considered, but year 13 will be prioritised)
- Male, female and non-binary
- Interested in pursuing an Apprenticeship, and exploring a career in Tech, Finance, HR or Business Ops

### What to expect:

- Mock Assessment Centre team challenge
- Speed Networking with professionals
- Learn about different job roles, careers at Pathways at Barclays
- Interview practise and tips
- FREE Lunch included!

### The University of Bedfordshire Life Science Conference 2026

The University of Bedfordshire will be hosting the highly-anticipated Life Science Conference 2026 across 3 dates in June & July at our Luton Campus. This conference is designed to provide students from schools and colleges with a unique opportunity to gain a deeper understanding of the pivotal role that science plays in our day-to-day lives, and to shed light on the diverse range of career prospects available within the science-based sector. Attendees can expect to be inspired by a wealth of expert speakers, interactive workshops, and hands-on demonstrations, all aimed at broadening their knowledge and sparking their interest in the exciting and ever-evolving field of life sciences.

You can select the date that they attend and the activities that they take part in, please see the dates and the activities listed below;

#### Dates:

Thursday 18th June 2026 - 10am – 3.30pm

Thursday 2nd July 2026 - 10 am – 3.30pm

#### Sessions:

DNA analysis - The Central Dogma, mutations and Mendel.

Microscopic Life - Prokaryotes, eukaryotes and the size of cells.

Enzyme Assays - Investigating enzyme action using kinetic activity assays.

Bacteria & Infection - Hand washing, disinfectants and disease.

Chemistry in Action - Understanding pH and buffers using colourimetric titrations.

Physiological Monitoring - Blood pressure, pulse oximetry and spirometry.

Forensic Entomology - Examining flies and larvae to estimate the time of death.

Spot Testing for Drugs - Use preliminary screening tests to identify substances.

The activities have been grouped into Streams to give the students a chance to experience a variety of activities on the day. The streams are detailed below but can also be found in the document attached. The students are able to pick one Stream and these will be allocated on a first come first serve basis with a back up option available for selection due to restrictions on numbers in the labs.

Red - DNA Analysis, Bacteria & Infection, Enzyme Assays, Physiological Monitoring

Black - Chemistry in Action, Enzyme Assays, Bacteria & Infection, DNA Analysis

Green - Forensic Entomology, Microscopic Life, Chemistry in Action, Spot Testing for Drugs

Yellow - Bacteria & Infection, DNA Analysis, Enzyme Assays, Microscopic Life

If you would like to attend the following link is where you will need to register for the conference. Even if you are intended on bringing a group of students, each student will need to complete the form so that they can be allocated a stream for the day. Please circulate this with any Year 12 & 13 and level 3 students that you feel would be interested as well as staff members that may have been missed from this communication.

Life Science Conference Form - Thurs 11th June, Thurs 18th June & Thurs 2nd July  
Luton Campus

Please do not hesitate to contact me

### Enrichment

"Taking part in BSL enrichment has already been such a fun and interesting experience. Miss Scarratt has taught us how meaningful and expressive sign language is, as well as the importance of it when communicating with the Deaf community. Although we have only had two sessions so far, we have already learnt a lot, including the alphabet, numbers, family members, months, and how to ask questions such as "where do you live?", and "what's your name?". Each session so far has been engaging and enjoyable, and even in such a short time, our class has

gained new skills, confidence, and a deeper appreciation for inclusive communication"

Vidnija Bicka

Mr Roper is climbing Mount Snowdon



Mr Roper is climbing Mount Snowdon for charity this half-term. Footprints Baby Loss is a charity that is really close to Mr Roper, and he would really appreciate any donations that can be made for such an important cause.

Mr Roper works very closely with Footprints, and has seen first hand the difference that any donation can make to families who need support.

If you have any questions please feel free to speak to Mr Roper

Goodbye Year 13



As we come to the end of this term it is time to say goodbye to Year 13. I know haven't been your Head of Year for your whole time at NIA, but I just want to say what a pleasure it has been to get to know you all.

Please remember that you will still need to come in and attend any exams you haven't had yet.

The leavers assembly at NIA6 takes place on 16th June 11.30am, which will be followed by pizza and a bowling trip. If you wish to attend the bowling trip please ensure you sign up via Arbor by the 5th June.

Mr John

Head of NIA6

Here's a look back on just some of the NIA6 highlights over the past year or so







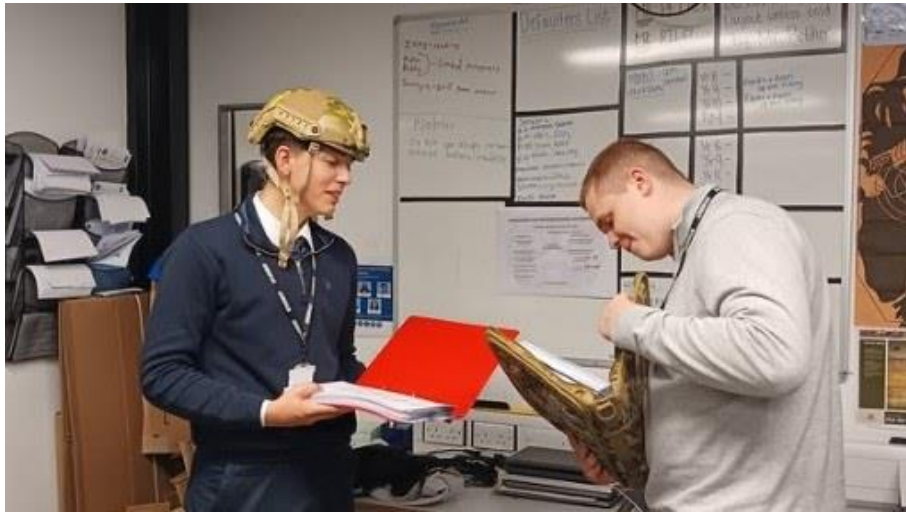














### Thought for the Week

Always be yourself — no copies, no imitations — because you are awesome just as you are. We should all strive to be our authentic selves, embracing what makes us

unique and staying true to who we are. But being authentic also means continuing to grow, learning from our experiences, and working every day to become the very best version of ourselves.