

# Newsletter

Summer Term 2025 – Edition 5

## Welcome to the fifth RNN Group E-Newsletter for parents and carers.

**This newsletter aims to ensure we communicate key information that is happening within the Group (made up of Rotherham College, North Notts College, Dearne Valley College and University Centre Rotherham) so you are up to date with all our news as a parent, carer or adult learner.**

These newsletters will be sent out three times a year and we hope that they will provide a good spread of useful information for you so you can support your young person or indeed make the most of all that is available as an adult learner.

In this edition, there are bite-size pieces of information on each section with more detailed information included in links if you would like more information.

- Free Lunchtime Webinars
- New Facilities
- New Adult Education Guide
- Find out about our Employer Academies
- Reports / parents events / letters home
- Parent Portal
- Skills for Employment
- Open Events and Taster Days coming up this term and next
- Keeping our communities safe
- Our Social Media Platforms to follow
- Recommend a learner



## New facilities and Gold!

### New facilities launch

Across the RNN Group, we have launched new facilities this academic year.



[Click to find out about our new facilities launch](#)  
[Click to find out about North Notts facilities launch](#)

### The Group won Gold in an intercollege competition in March!

[Click to read more about RNN takes home gold](#)



## New Adult Education Guide

We have launched our new Adult Education Guide for the next few years. It includes information on exciting new courses: warehousing, forklift truck driving and CSCS testing!

[Click to see our Adult Education Guide](#)



## Find out about our Employer Academies which support our learners workplace development

RNN Group has multiple employer academies across our campuses which support our learners development in the workplace both within our colleges and at the employers facilities too.

[Click to read about our employer academies](#)

## Student Support Available

Does your young person have a query that they need help with that is not course related? At each of our campuses we have student support teams happy to help! We also have information on our websites too. Support ranges from financial, wellbeing, information on cost of living, facilities available, digital support, transport, additional learning support, menus and catering, SEND support and enrichment opportunities.

For more information, click on the links below:

[Student Support at Rotherham College](#)

[Student Support at North Notts College](#)

[Student Support at Dearne Valley College](#)



## Reports / Parents events

Information for parents as well as letters that are sent to parents can be found through the following areas:

### Parent and Carer information:

[Parent and carer information Rotherham College](#)  
[Parent and carer information North Notts College](#)  
[Parent and carer information Dearne Valley College](#)  
[Parent and carer information University Centre Rotherham](#)

### Letters Home information:

[Letters home information Rotherham College](#)  
[Letters home information North Notts College](#)  
[Letters home information Dearne Valley College](#)

There will be parents' evenings this term for parents to meet with teachers to talk over the young person's achievements, developments and work to support them if needed. If you have missed them, don't worry, just contact your young person's tutor for an update on how they are doing using the contact details at the end of this newsletter.

## Parent Portal

We launched a parent portal this year for you to access lots of important information. Find out more here:

[Rotherham College Parent Portal](#)  
[North Notts College Parent Portal](#)  
[Dearne Valley College Parent Portal](#)



## Open Events and Taster Days coming up this term and next

**We have our next round of open events coming up in November.**

### Rotherham College

Saturday 15th November 2025  
 9.30am - 12.00pm  
[Click to book Rotherham College open event](#)

### North Notts College

Saturday 22nd November  
 9.30am - 12.00pm  
[Click to book North Notts College open event](#)

### Dearne Valley College

Saturday 22nd November  
 9.30 - 12.00pm  
[Click to book Dearne Valley College open event](#)

**We have our next round of taster days coming up in June.**

### Rotherham College

Monday 23rd June 2025  
 Tuesday 24th June 2025  
[Click to book your taster day at Rotherham College](#)

### North Notts College

Wednesday 25th June 2025  
 Thursday 26th June 2025  
[Click to book your taster day at North Notts College](#)

### Dearne Valley College

Wednesday 25th June 2025  
 Thursday 26th June 2025  
[Click to book your taster day at Dearne Valley College](#)



## Keeping Our Community Safe: Addressing Concerns Around Knife Crime

### A Message from Our Safeguarding Team

Nationally and within our local communities, concerns surrounding knife crime involving teenagers are sadly on the rise. At the RNN Group, the safety of our learners is paramount, and we want to ensure all parents and students are well-informed and vigilant.

It's a dangerous misconception that carrying a weapon, such as a knife, offers personal protection. In fact, carrying a knife dramatically increases the risk of serious injury or fatal consequences for the individual, and for those around them.

The devastating impact of knife crime can be lifelong, affecting families and communities profoundly.

We want to reassure you that the RNN Group colleges are safe environments for learning and personal growth. We have robust safeguarding procedures in place, and any concerns raised about student safety will always be treated with the utmost seriousness and acted upon swiftly.

### What You Can Do:

We urge all students and parents to remain vigilant. If you have any concerns about knife crime, or suspect a young person is carrying a weapon:

- Contact our dedicated Safeguarding Team directly for advice or to report a concern: [safeguarding@rnngroup.ac.uk](mailto:safeguarding@rnngroup.ac.uk).
- Report anonymously and safely to Crimestoppers via their Fearless campaign, either online at [www.fearless.org](http://www.fearless.org) or by calling **0800 555 111**.

**By working together, we can ensure our college and wider community remain secure for everyone. If you have concerns, please report them.**



### The Dangers of Youth Vaping:

While often perceived as a safer alternative to traditional cigarettes, vaping carries significant health risks, particularly for developing lungs and brains. E-liquids contain nicotine, a highly addictive substance that can harm adolescent brain development, impact memory and concentration, and lead to dependency. Beyond nicotine, vapes can contain other harmful chemicals and unknown substances.

**A major concern is that young people often don't know what is truly in their vape.**

There's a risk of products containing illegal or unregulated substances, such as **THC (the psychoactive component of cannabis)**, which can have unpredictable and dangerous effects on health. The sharing of vapes also poses serious hygiene risks and can spread illnesses.

### Our College Environment & Support:

The RNN Group remains a safe and structured learning environment. **Vaping and smoking are strictly only permitted in designated outdoor areas on college premises.** We actively enforce this policy to maintain a healthy and respectful environment for all.

Beyond enforcement, our priority is to support our learners' health and well-being. We want to work collaboratively with students to ensure they understand the genuine health risks associated with vaping. Our aim is to provide comprehensive support for those who wish to stop vaping or need help to reduce their dependency.

### Where to Find Advice and Support:

If you or your child have concerns about vaping, or if your child needs support to stop, please reach out. Our dedicated teams are here to help:

- **Safeguarding Team:** For advice or to report concerns, please **email** [safeguarding@rnngroup.ac.uk](mailto:safeguarding@rnngroup.ac.uk).
- **Wellbeing Mentors:** Available for confidential advice and guidance on health and well-being.

By understanding these new laws and the associated health risks, we can work together to support our young people in making informed and healthy choices.

## Skills for Employment

We launched a brand new initiative - Skills for Employment - to all our learners this year.

This initiative - developed in partnership with a number of local businesses - helps to develop your young person into a first rate employee by working to complete ten 'power skills' / transferable skills that are in high demand by employers.

Employers will also support this by providing work experience or an industry placement to help gather the evidence required for each stamp and certificate that they will receive.

[Skills for Employment at Rotherham College](#)

[Skills for Employment at North Notts College](#)

[Skills for Employment at Dearne Valley College:](#)



## FREE Lunchtime Webinar

RNN Group has recently launched a new webinar series which are totally free.

These webinars are for adults, employers, partner organisations, school's careers leads, Headteachers, prospective and current learners and parents who might be interested in some or all of the topics that we will be running.

Find out more about what topics are coming up and book on or even watch previous webinars here:

[Click to find out more about our Free Lunchtime Webinars](#)



**Dearne Valley  
College**

## What's Happening?

To keep up to date with all that is happening across the Group and the Colleges, click on the relevant news pages below.

### RNN Group News and Events

[rnngroup.co.uk/category/news](http://rnngroup.co.uk/category/news)

[rnngroup.co.uk/category/rnn-group-blog](http://rnngroup.co.uk/category/rnn-group-blog)

### Rotherham College News and Events

[rotherham.ac.uk/about/news](http://rotherham.ac.uk/about/news)

### North Notts College News and Events

[nnc.ac.uk/about/news](http://nnc.ac.uk/about/news)

### Dearne Valley College News and Events

[dearne-coll.ac.uk/about/news](http://dearne-coll.ac.uk/about/news)

### University Centre Rotherham News and Events

[ucr.rotherham.ac.uk/about/news](http://ucr.rotherham.ac.uk/about/news)

## Recommend Us

Finally, why not recommend a learner who might benefit from the RNN Group courses and programmes we have to offer. Contact the relevant college for you:

### Rotherham College

Tel - 01709 362111

Email - [info@rotherham.ac.uk](mailto:info@rotherham.ac.uk)

### North Notts College

Tel - 01909 504500

Email - [contact@nnc.ac.uk](mailto:contact@nnc.ac.uk)

### Dearne Valley College

Tel - 01709 513355

Email - [learn@dearne-coll.ac.uk](mailto:learn@dearne-coll.ac.uk)

### University Centre Rotherham

Tel - 01709 722806

Email - [ucr@rotherham.ac.uk](mailto:ucr@rotherham.ac.uk)

**Don't forget to follow our  
social media platforms**

### RNN Group



### Rotherham College



### North Notts College



### Dearne Valley College



# NEWS ROUND UP



## Echoes of the Era: D-Day Darlings Bring Wartime Spirit to Campus for VE Day Anniversary

In a moving commemoration of the upcoming 80th anniversary of Victory in Europe (VE) Day, Dearne Valley College was recently graced by the enchanting melodies of two members of the renowned D-Day Darlings!

[Click to read more D-Day Darlings bring wartime spirit to campus for VE Day Anniversary](#)



## Get Your Gloves On! Gardening Week Blooms at Dearne Valley College!

We're celebrating Gardening Week by getting our hands dirty!

As a land-based college, we're all about embracing the great outdoors, and our campus is a green haven for staff and students alike.

[Click to read more Gardening Week blooms at Dearne Valley College](#)

## PROUD TO BE



## FREDIE: Do you know what FREDIE means?

Following on from Mental Health Awareness Week, FREDIE is also something that is very important to RNN Group staff and students but what does it mean?

[Click to read more FREDIE at the RNN Group](#)



## Get ahead this Summer with Fitness 63!

The RNN Group has a commercial services website which promotes our incredible commercial outlets and offering across the Group. One of these services is our very own Fitness 63 Gym at Dearne Valley College.

[Click to read more Fitness 63 at Dearne Valley College](#)



# NEWS ROUND UP



## Turing Scheme: Students Create Lifetime Memories in Bali, Indonesia

Two unforgettable weeks in Bali have left our students with more than just memories – they've gained a new outlook on the world.

[Click to read more turing scheme: Students create lifetime memories in Bali, Indonesia](#)



## Rooted in Earth: Sustainability at College

As the vibrant greens of spring deepen and the air hums with renewed life, Earth Day on April 22nd serves as a vital reminder of our planet's incredible beauty and the crucial role we play in its preservation.

[Click to read more Rooted in Earth: Sustainability at College](#)



## Celebrating National Pet Day!

Pets offer a multitude of benefits to their owners and households, contributing to both physical and mental well-being.

The staff and students at Dearne Valley College can certainly attest to this with Amber the Armadillo, meerkats and llamas to enjoy in the Animal Management and Care department.

[Click to read more celebrating National Pet Day at Dearne Valley College](#)



## Students Race to Victory in Williams Racing F1 Esports Finals!

A team of our talented students has raced their way to victory in the Student Racing League Split 2 Finals, an esports competition created and facilitated by the renowned Williams Racing Formula 1 team!

[Click to read more students race to victory in Williams Racing F1 Esports finals.](#)