

Monday 8<sup>th</sup> December 2025

Dear Parent/Carer

**Re: Information regarding arrangements for the end of term and return in the New Year January 2026**

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 19<sup>th</sup> December 2025** 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 19th December 2025	PRU closes to all students – Staggered dismissal from 12:30pm
Monday 24th December 2025 – Friday 2 <sup>nd</sup> January 2026	PRU closed to all students (Christmas Holiday)
Monday 5th January 2026	PRU closed to all students ( <b>Teacher training Day</b> )
Tuesday 6 <sup>th</sup> January 2026	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/carer survey. We are working hard in school to target the areas identified that we can further improve. One area which you have asked us to improve on a little more is letting you know exactly what your child is learning in school. Although this is available in detail on the PRU website, a separate document is also attached here, outlining what pupils 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 working hard to expand and improve our extra-curricular activities offer. This 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 January 2026:

1. Football (APEX) - lead by qualified football coaches
2. Boxing (Newbiggin Boxing Club) - 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
5. Hair & Beauty – Essential Beauty Academy (North East) Ltd

Our Year 11 students deserve special recognition as two weeks ago they successfully completed their first ever attempt at full GCSE mock examinations. They will also very soon begin 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 2026.

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

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "R Carr".

Richard Carr  
Headteacher

