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| **Study Programme Information** |
| Welcome! Here is your half-termly progress update. |

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| **Key Dates** |
| Functional Skills Exams Week commences on 31st March. Make sure your young person speaks to their teacher and knows the time and date of their exam.  GCSE Mock week will be week commencing 24th March. Make sure your young person speaks to their teacher and knows the time and date of their exam.  GCSE Exam dates are as follows:  Math's Paper 1 Thursday 15th May  English Paper 1 Friday 23rd May  Math's Paper 2 Wednesday 4th June  English Paper 2 Friday 6th June  For your information, the term dates for this academic year can be found on the college website: <https://www.accross.ac.uk/term-dates/> |

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| **Request For Action** |
| The College is required to collect two Emergency/Next of kin (NOK) contact details for students who are aged 16-19. Please access the Student Portal to provide details. lternatively, you can complete the enclosed Emergency /NOK form then scan and email to admin.arc@nelsongroup.ac.uk or hand in at Student Services |

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| **Key Messages** |
| During this term we will be focusing on what your young person would like to do when their course finishes. They will already have been given information on the various options in their tutorial sessions, as well as having one-to-one meeting with their Personal Tutor to discuss their progress and progression plans.  If your young person is looking to return to college next year, they will need to complete their Next Steps application and may be invited to an interview which will take place on Wednesday 5th March.  If your young person is still unsure of what they would like to do, they can book an appointment with one of the college's Careers Advisors to talk about options.  Useful information on how to support your young person can be found in the "Information for Parents, Guardians and Carers" section of the Careers Zone page on our college website, www.accrington.ac.uk. |

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| **What’s On** |
| As part of our ongoing commitment to student safety, we are introducing a series of training sessions for students covering lockdown procedures. These sessions are designed to ensure that our students are aware of key safety measures and are prepared to respond effectively in the unlikely event of an emergency. The drills will take place at both Accrington and Nelson Campus from week commencing 24th February 2025.  The drill(s) will be conducted in a way that minimises disruption while helping students feel confident in their ability to respond safely and calmly in an emergency. The drill will be supervised by trained staff, and students will be briefed in advance.  We understand that emergency drills and discussions of emergency situations can sometimes feel daunting, especially for those who may feel anxious. Our staff will prioritise creating a reassuring environment, emphasising that these measures are in place purely for precaution and safety. |