

Annual Leave in Further Education Colleges – 2021

As you may know, the exam results are much earlier than usual:

Tuesday 10 August
Thursday 12 August

A-Level Results
GCSE Results

This could pose problems for a number of our members.

Branches are advised to raise this issue for discussion at the earliest possible opportunity.

Colleges will want to ensure that they do not lose learners. Our members will want to ensure that they have a proper summer break. Earlier enrolment may well impact on already agreed and planned annual leave arrangements.

There will be ways of dealing with this which could include the following:

- Agreements to carry over annual leave;
- Annual leave being split – some before the results; some after;
- Annual leave being brought forward;
- Management seeking only volunteers;

You may want to ensure that any such agreements are a one-off and are specifically to accommodate the much earlier release of exam results. You may want to agree that no-one should be coerced to change their plans and that any changes to annual leave should be through agreement. Any Branch Reps who need assistance in this matter should contact the regional office for help – gateshead@ucu.org.uk

We all know how much our members in further education need a proper break over the summer. It is worth starting this conversation now with senior college leaders so that problems can be identified and solved.

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Please note that UCU staff currently remain home-based