



July 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

How is Year 10 almost over? It feels like only yesterday that I was writing to you welcoming your child into Year 10 and beginning to get to know them as their Year Leader (I won't get too soppy). I am sure you are as overwhelmed as I am at the thought of your child entering the final year of their GCSEs in just 6 weeks' time but we are committed to making it a successful year for them.

I have been astounded by the attitude, engagement and diligence of Year 10 this term considering the challenging circumstances that they have been faced with. There is no doubt that the timing of this almost complete closure has come at an awkward time for your child; I would like to express how grateful I am to you for your support in ensuring that your child has continued to engage with remote learning.

Beneath this letter is a message from Mr Whitehouse, Assistant Headteacher, outlining how we will use the engagement levels throughout remote learning and assess progress to ensure a Year 11 recovery programme is effective. This will enable us to identify areas of development to put your child in a position to achieve the best set of results they can next year.

In my assemblies with your child in the past 2 weeks we have acknowledged that we are living in a different world now but one thing has not changed: they have their future ahead of them and we must work together to ensure that they open as many doors for themselves at the end of this academic year. Your child has been encouraged to set targets this week to begin the journey now; I encourage you to discuss these targets with them during the summer break.

Looking to next year, we are now in a position to reveal the tutors for Year 11. The team remains primarily the same but we welcome Mr Humber and Miss Mondejar as tutors and Mrs Fyfe into the team too.

Tutor group	Tutor	Email	Room
11A	Mr M Downes	mdownes@emmbrook.wokingham.sch.uk	H2.4
11B	Mr C Humber	chumber@emmbrook.wokingham.sch.uk	H2.8
11C	Mr B McGrath	bmcgrath@emmbrook.wokingham.sch.uk	H2.3
11D	Mr R Edwards	redwards@emmbrook.wokingham.sch.uk	H2.9
11E	Miss C Mondejar	cmondejar@emmbrook.wokingham.sch.uk	H2.6
Additional team members	Mrs L Fyfe	lfyfe@emmbrook.wokingham.sch.uk	
	Mrs R Moorcroft	rmoorcroft@emmbrook.wokingham.sch.uk	

Prior to September, please contact me directly regarding any questions for students in 10B or 10E.

Despite the year being cut short, my first year as Year Leader for Year 10 has been phenomenal. I have loved getting to know your child, working with them and celebrating their achievements. I am sure that Year 11 will be full of many more memories and I am excited to support your child in the last stage of their GCSE journey.



To celebrate the brilliant year, I urge you to watch the Year 10 Awards Ceremony by following this link: <https://youtu.be/eGTedmbICNU>. Please excuse my cringey video voice – I am hoping for a face-to-face celebration next year!

I look forward to the start of Year 11(!) once everyone is refreshed after a restful summer. If you have any questions in the meantime then please do not hesitate to contact me at ehorne@emmbrook.wokingham.sch.uk.

I hope you have a truly restful and enjoyable summer full of memories.

Best wishes,
Ellie Horne
Year 10 Leader

A message from Mr Whitehouse, Assistant Headteacher for assessment, recording and reporting:

There is no doubt that the past few months have seen schools, students, parents and carers set all sorts of news challenges. The almost complete closure of schools for over an entire term has seen schools having to fundamentally change the way they teach and give feedback, and students adapt to the concept of distance learning. One of my jobs has been to work with staff and monitor how students have engaged with their school work. Overall, I have been hugely impressed with the way Emmbrook school students have stepped up and tried their best to ensure their learning does not suffer.

Under more normal times, the end of the academic year would see monitoring reports and data being sent home. Given the unprecedented circumstances the school has taken the decision to not produce these documents for this year. Please be reassured that teaching staff have been closely monitoring, marking and recording the work which has been submitted. This information will inform the curriculum and assessment planning from September onwards.

Year 10 would have received attitude towards learning grades as well as their first GCSE examined grades. These grades would have been based upon assessments sat in exam conditions and marked against GCSE criteria. Clearly this is something which is almost impossible to recreate during lockdown. All subject areas are busy readying themselves for yr 10's return (as yr 11) in September. Teaching staff will use the first term to assess which material has been learned and where there are any potential gaps. All year 11 students will also sit their first 'mock' exams in the first term (currently scheduled for 13th October onwards). There is a catch up plan in place for any student who may have fallen behind. You will receive monitoring grades about your child in term 1.2.

If you have any questions or concerns about your child's progress, please contact your child's form tutor or Miss Horne, year 10 leader. If there is a specific subject that you feel you would like to discuss, please contact their teacher directly. I will be in contact with you with more details around assessment, monitoring and reporting at the start of the new academic year. I wish you and your family a restful and safe summer.