



17th July 2020

Dear Parents/Carers

I cannot quite believe that the 2019-2020 academic year has come to an end, and already, Year 8 have completed two years at Emmbrook! This has certainly been a year like no other and Year 8 have coped admirably in these difficult circumstances.

Year 8 have certainly done themselves proud with their fantastic effort, engagement and commitment to the work set, and with coping as best they can, during unprecedented times. The live subject sessions have been a resounding success, and the staff running them, have been unbelievably impressed with Year 8. The Tutor TEAMS meetings have also been a pleasure to be involved with, and it was so good to see, so many faces and stories about lockdown, and renewed positivity about the time ahead.

I am looking forward to what September brings and am hoping that things will be ever closer to a sense of normality. I am grateful that the Year 8 Tutor team is staying together, and all pupils will have the same form tutor and the same tutor base for the next academic. I feel this stability will be crucial in settling the year group back into school as effectively as possible. We also welcome some new members of attached staff (Mrs. Simpson & Ms. Wellman) to help assist at tutor time in the mornings.

The first day of schooling for Year 9, will be Friday 4th September 2020.

Tutor Group	Tutor for 2020-2021	Email	Tutor Room
9A	Mrs. Spencer	aspencer@emmbrook.wokingham.sch.uk	E1.1
9B	Miss. Alder	aalder@emmbrook.wokingham.sch.uk	E1.2
9C	Miss. Taylor	dtaylor@emmbrook.wokingham.sch.uk	E1.3
9D	Mr. Maskell	smaskell@emmbrook.wokingham.sch.uk	E1.4
9E	Miss. Ridgers	kridgers@emmbrook.wokingham.sch.uk	E1.5
Attached Staff	Mrs. Simpson Ms. Wellman	msimpson@emmbrook.wokingham.sch.uk awellman@emmbrook.wokingham.sch.uk	

As Emmbrook have reverted back to a three year KS3, your child will now pick their options in term 2.2 (just before Easter 2021), and their GCSE option subjects will start in September 2021 (when they begin Year 10). I will update you in much more detail regarding option choices, next academic year.

I have been in contact with a lot of parents during lockdown, and your support has been incredible. I will always be on the end of an email or phone call should you need anything at all come September and beyond, so please never hesitate to contact me or your child's form tutor. I hope everyone has a lovely summer, has a well-earned rest, and gets to spend some time doing the things they love.



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 8 would have received attitude towards learning grades as well as subject Progress Indicators. These grades report on how your child is progressing through the Key Stage 3 National Curriculum. All subject areas are busy readying themselves for yr 8's return (as yr 9) in September. Teaching staff will use the first term to assess which material has been learned and where there are any potential gaps. There is a catch up plan in place for any student who may have fallen behind. You will receive monitoring grades about your child at the start of term 1.2.

If you have any questions or concerns about your child's progress, please contact your child's form tutor or Mr. Baker, the head of year. 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.

Best Wishes

Mr. S. Baker

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