



Dear Parents/Carers

What a year! It is safe to say that no one expected the year to end in such a way. However, I cannot believe that the students in year 9 have finished this year in such fashion. I am so proud of how well they have responded to this change and how positive speaking to them recently has been. It really does make me feel incredibly lucky to have such a fantastic bunch of young adults to work with on a daily basis and I thank them all for their attitude and overall kindness. They have grown a lot over this year, both physically for some, but also as people. I remember being in the hall, way back in year 7, introducing myself to parents and students and highlighting the fact that my main aim as year leader is to help shape students into good people. They are doing this independently each day.

Our recent Teams meetings have been the highlight of the lockdown situation for me as they have given me an opportunity to speak to as many of our year group as possible and I know both tutors and myself have really enjoyed it. My inbox has been flooded with emails about positive work from students and I cannot quite get over how well some students have taken to their GCSE courses.

I would like to take a moment to thank the tutors, who have been incredible this year. I know that the year would not be such a success if it were not for their hard work and behind every fantastic student, there is a hard working tutor who is fighting for their success each day. We are fortunate that next year our brilliant tutor teams gain an extra member. Mr Hadley joins us to form 10E next year. The fact that we are a growing year group excites me as it means our Emmbrook family is expanding. Miss Fry has been, and always will remain, part of this family but during her maternity leave Mrs Guinn will join us as our attached member of senior staff. Next year's tutor team consists of:

Tutor Group	Tutor for 2020-2021	Email	Tutor Room
10A	Mr Malyan	<a href="mailto:AMalyan@emmbrook.wokingham.sch.uk">AMalyan@emmbrook.wokingham.sch.uk</a>	H1.1
10B	Mrs Meader	<a href="mailto:JMeader@emmbrook.wokingham.sch.uk">JMeader@emmbrook.wokingham.sch.uk</a>	H1.2
10C	Mr Kalatzis	<a href="mailto:EKalatzis@emmbrook.wokingham.sch.uk">EKalatzis@emmbrook.wokingham.sch.uk</a>	H1.3
10D	Miss Matthews	<a href="mailto:HMatthews@emmbrook.wokingham.sch.uk">HMatthews@emmbrook.wokingham.sch.uk</a>	H2.1
10E	Mr Hadley	<a href="mailto:LHadley@emmbrook.wokingham.sch.uk">LHadley@emmbrook.wokingham.sch.uk</a>	H2.2

I have been in contact with many students and parents/carers over this strange time and I would like to thank you all for your continued efforts. Since year 7, I have felt incredibly supported by all parents, students and everyone in the tutor team.



I will now share with you 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 9 would have received attitude towards learning grades as well as their first GCSE graded monitoring. 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 9's return (as yr 10) 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 Tichband, 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.*

Finally, I am incredibly excited for September and to see everyone again. It has been far too long already and am ready to welcome the year group back and spend some time catching up with how everyone has been.

My kindest regards to everyone and I wish you all a brilliant summer break.

Mr Tichband  
Year 9 leader