



Dear Parent/Carer,

My name is Pete Whitehouse and I am an Assistant Headteacher at The Emmbrook School. My main responsibilities include the assessment, recording and reporting of student progress. Over the summer I led the team working with Yr 11 and Yr 13 to ensure every student got their exam results.

I welcome you all and hope that your child has had a wonderful first day back with us. It has been the most unusual start to an academic year but all the staff here are really excited about getting students back in to school and getting back to teaching and learning.

I am writing to you with an update on the assessment and reporting schedule for this current year 11.

Usually, the GCSE/KS4 journey would be full of assessments. Students will have on-going assessment in lessons, spot quizzes, end of unit tests, topic tests, practice exam questions etc. All of these help to advise teachers as to the student's current grade. Alongside the on-going assessment, there are also a number of formal assessments. These are called Key Assessment Points (KAPs). In a standard GCSE/KS4 journey the KAP's would include end of yr 10 exams, WAVE/Mock exams in term 1 of yr 11 and again in term 2. These exams are run by the exams team and sat in exam conditions as stipulated by JCQ and OfQual. It is performance in the KAP's that allows teachers to give predictions or centre assessed grades. Given the unprecedented events of the last six months, the current year 11 have missed out on their scheduled end of year exams. The grades from these exams would have been used in sixth form/college applications (due before Christmas in most cases). The next formal exams under normal conditions would have been in December.

I have reorganized the assessment calendar for this year group to ensure that every year 11 has the opportunity to sit a key assessment in every subject they are studying. The planned dates for these exams are the 13th – 22nd October (inclusive). Over the coming weeks, every student will receive a timetable outlining their schedule and timings of their exams. The exams team will run an assembly to outline the JCQ rules for exams. I will also be running tutor time sessions for each student to go through the exam expectations. Miss Horne will ensure the year group has a 'practice run' of where to line up, entry to the exams hall and other exam protocols.

Over the coming weeks, students should settle back into school life and reestablish their learning routines. Each subject area will outline exam structure, content and revision resources in lessons. Key subject information will also be available to you nearer the time.

It seems very harsh to welcome our students back to school and on day 1, start to discuss upcoming exams, however, we have a duty to ensure that every student has been assessed so that students can make informed post 16 applications and we in



school can plan the most effective lessons to maximize their remaining time in year 11.

If you have any questions around the upcoming exams, please do not hesitate to contact me at the school.

Yours faithfully,

P Whitehouse (Assistant Headteacher)

The **Emmbrook** School



Emmbrook Road, Wokingham, RG41 1JP

Tel: (0118) 9784406

Email: enquiries@emmbrook.wokingham.sch.uk

Website: www.emmbrook.wokingham.sch.uk

Headteacher: Mr Nick McSweeney