



Friday 6<sup>th</sup> September 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

## Weekly Update

I hope that all of the students had a fantastic summer break and have enjoyed their few days of 2024/25. It has been particularly pleasing to see the new Year 7 students settle so well.

## GCSE and A-level Results

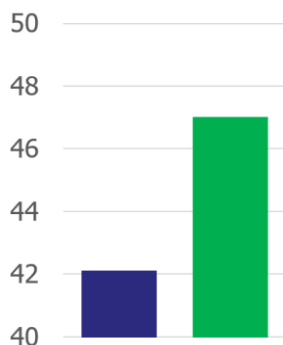
We were delighted with the results achieved by last year's students in Years 11 and 13 – both cohorts did brilliantly! We had expected great things from them but it is always nerve wracking until the final results come through. At both GCSE and A-level our results look to be broadly at or above national benchmarks and a huge step up from last year.

### Year 11

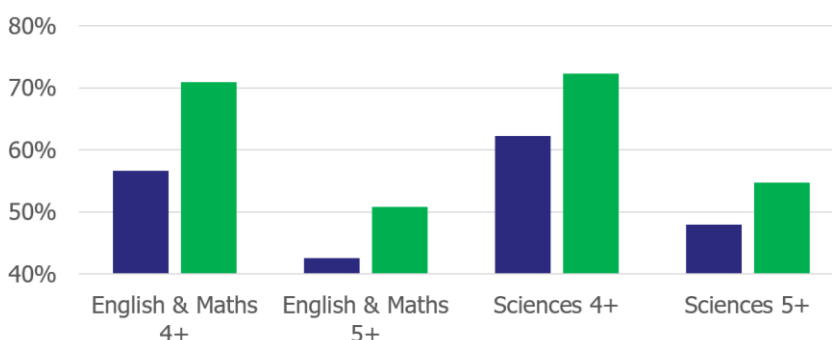
2023

2024

#### Attainment 8



#### GCSE Grades in English, Maths & Science

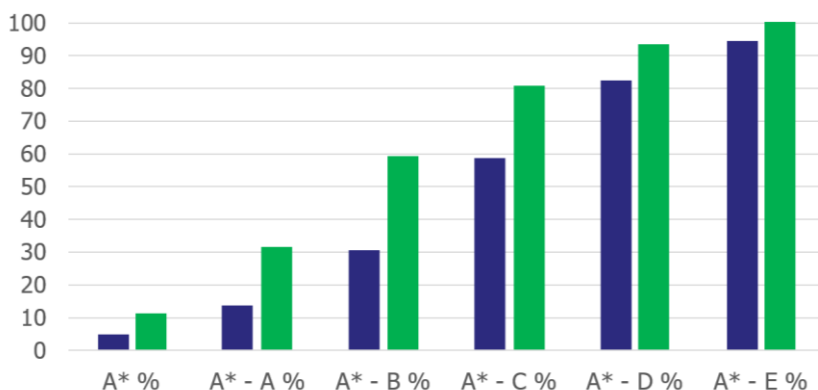


### Year 13

2023

2024

#### A-Level Grades



**Average Grade**  
**C = B-**

**Average Points**  
**28.7 37.6**



These results are a testament to the hard work of our students, strong teaching from colleagues and the vital support from parents. We expect to continue this good news story with the new Years 11 and 13.

## New (and Returning) Staff

Having lost very few staff last year it seems odd to introduce so many new colleagues but this is the benefit of the increased funding we've enjoyed as the school has grown in recent years. We have 11 new colleagues starting this week:

- Miss Dolamore is returning after a year away as the new Student Support Manager
- Mr Hodges is a returner of sorts having previously been a student here himself. He's teaching Maths and Science.
- Mrs Hugo is our new Design & Technology teacher. Unfortunately, there has been a delay in her arrival beyond anyone's control but we are expecting her to start shortly.
- Miss Johnston is teaching History.
- Miss Leggatt is teaching English.
- Miss Liston is our new Curriculum Leader for PE.
- Miss Nicholl is teaching Music and Art.
- Mrs Novelli is teaching History.
- Miss Root is teaching English.
- Mr Teitel is returning to the Business and Economics Department after a year away in Australia, this time as the Curriculum Leader.
- Mrs Warren is teaching French and Spanish.

## Open Evening – Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> September

We are at that time of year again when we will be welcoming Year 6 students and families to visit the school as they think about their school choices for September 2024. There will be tours every morning for the next two weeks. This year's Open Evening runs from 6pm on Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> September. I hope that we will have the majority of students with us that evening to support the event.

As we do every year, **school will end at 12.20pm on that day** to allow us to set up for the evening. The E1, E2 and E3 buses have been rearranged to be at school for 12.20PM however the 202 and 244 cannot be rearranged as these are shared services (so students who rely on these services will need to make alternative arrangements or remain to catch the bus at 3.30pm). If you would like your child to stay at school until 2.55pm then please notify us by Monday 16<sup>th</sup> September via Jane Rimmer ([jrimmer@emmbrook.wokingham.sch.uk](mailto:jrimmer@emmbrook.wokingham.sch.uk)).

If you would like more information about September 2025 then please visit our [website](http://www.emmbrook.wokingham.sch.uk) or contact Mr Johnson ([cjohnson@emmbrook.wokingham.sch.uk](mailto:cjohnson@emmbrook.wokingham.sch.uk)).

## Notices for Year 7

- We've been notified by some parents/carers that emails are arriving for one person in the household but not the other. Our settings look correct so it may be that emails are going into junk. Please let us know if you are encountering problems and please share this message with other parents if they mention not receiving school email.



- Having allowed Year 7 a few days to settle in this week, next week we will issue the Satchel One logins. This is the homework system and teachers will then set homework for Year 7 students as they do for the rest of the school.

## **Year 8 Parent Information Evening**

Over the year we commit to an evening for the parent/carers of each year group to visit the school and meet with staff (in addition to the online parents' evenings, more information on those next week). Next week is the first of these for Year 8. The event will be a talk in the hall from key leaders and then a chance to talk with those leaders. We expect it to last around 30 minutes. I hope to see you there at 6pm on Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> September.

## **Traffic and Safety**

At the beginning and the end of the school day our site and local roads become very busy. For the safety of our students, I'd like to give the following reminders:

- Please do not drive onto the site to drop off or pick up students (unless with specific prior permission, e.g. if your child is temporarily using crutches).
- Please be considerate of local residents, avoid blocking roads or straddling pavements.

If you are bringing/collecting your child by car then we always recommend agreeing a meeting point on one of the roads a few minutes from the school and agreeing with your child that they walk from/to there.

## **Tesco Stronger Starts**

We're excited to share that our application to Tesco Stronger Starts has been successful, and from the first week of October voting to support us will open in Tesco Wokingham and Tesco Express Crowthorne. The aim is to collect the most blue tokens and to receive £1500 towards continuing our Meals and Mentoring project. Please support this as much as possible – it will be running until the middle of January 2025.

## **New Absence Line Direct Number**

We have introduced a direct line to report absences that does not require you to go via the main switchboard. You can now report absences by calling 01189 070279. We ask that you contact us on every day of absence.

## **Extra-curricular Clubs**

Extracurricular clubs are expected to start running from Monday 16<sup>th</sup> of September, these will include sport and music clubs along with a range of other offerings from our staff. Timetables are due to follow.

## **Lost Property**

The lost property from last term will be emptied on Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> September (including what has been found over the holidays). If you know that your child lost items last term, please ask them to visit Student Reception to see if it is there. Anything handed in from today onwards



will remain in lost property. We strongly encourage the naming of all items as we return named property directly to the students.

### **New Family Fun Club – Radstock Community Centre**

ASD Family Help have asked us to share that their new free Family Fun Club is starting on Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> September in the Elizabeth Room, Radstock Community Centre, Earley. It is a monthly safe and inclusive space for autistic/neurodiverse families to drop in for and join in with an organised activity (or just play with LEGO etc). Children of all ages are welcome. Staff will be available to chat with and to signpost parents and carers or adults who are autistic or neurodiverse. Whilst primarily set up for families and their children; over 18's who are autistic/neurodiverse and want a safe and calm space to chill or chat to a member of staff are also welcome. More information is available on their [website](#).

For new parents, I will write a letter at the end of each week to keep you informed as much as possible (it is not normally this lengthy!). I hope that you all have a lovely weekend.

Best wishes,

**Nick McSweeney**

Headteacher

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