

The Emmbrook Sixth



Learning Together, Succeeding Together

Achieving excellence through personal development,
integrity and ambition.

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Introduction from Mr McSweeney, Headteacher

Dear Students,

I think it is important that I address this letter to you, the students, because it underscores how the process of choosing a Sixth Form is such a personal choice for you. The beauty of A-level study is that you have the chance, for the first time in your education, to truly specialise. To put it another way, you are freed from the GCSE system, which requires you to cover the full breadth of the curriculum; you can pursue the courses that excite and inspire you – I still remember the joy of specialising at A-level.

The other significant difference with The Emmbrook's Sixth Form is your status in our community. Our Year 12 and 13 students are a bridge between the lower school and the staff and you will feel that difference in the way that you are treated and engaged with. You will have additional freedoms and responsibilities. I expect you to play a full and active part in the life of our school – that is why I believe that staying in a school Sixth Form is a richer experience than joining a vast Sixth Form college. You are leaders in this school and we in turn will listen and provide you with the experiences that you want and need.

I am confident that you will have heard from our current Year 12 and 13 students that Mr Constable is an outstanding Head of Sixth Form. He is a dedicated and thoughtful leader who is driven to ensure that every member of our Sixth Form receives outstanding teaching and exceptional pastoral care. It is always the case, I believe, that you can only really judge a person by what they do; Mr Constable's Sixth Form is friendly, supportive and academically focussed – what more could I ask for from him?

Our Sixth Form offers the right balance of academic excellence, pastoral care and wider opportunities. We are an inclusive Sixth Form, providing opportunities for you to reach your goals, be that a place at Oxbridge through to being ready to enter the world of work – you will have our expertise and support at every step of the journey.

The most fundamental principle must be that you make an informed choice – this is your future – the decision you make about the next two years has the potential to shape your entire life. Indeed, my decision to study an economics degree, to train as an economics teacher and now to have the best job in the world, all directly stem from my A-level economics teacher, Mr Drake. I remain so grateful to him and I know literally hundreds of students over the last 16 years who have passed through our Sixth Form and can each identify their Emmbrook 'Mr Drakes' – I want each of you to have that opportunity.

Ask questions, think hard, be guided by your parents and teachers (they have a valuable insight, take advantage of that!) and make a positive choice for your future.

Best wishes,

Mr McSweeney, Headteacher



Introduction from Mr Constable, Head of Sixth Form

The Emmbrook Sixth Form is a special place that is at the heart of the Emmbrook community and is proud of its engagement with the wider school, and local community. We offer our students the opportunity to develop a wide range of transferable skills, as well as a space in which they can be academically successful. Our aim is to provide all our students with the foundation to embrace challenges in their future, and to thrive within the modern workplace.

At the Emmbrook, we aim to equip our students with the ability to make judgements, show empathy and build a moral compass, whilst defining their academic pathway. We offer a range of subjects which are delivered by expert classroom practitioners and which enable our students to follow a number of different paths academically.

Outside of the classroom, there are also a number of opportunities available to help our students develop the skills they will need for the future. We offer a range of leadership opportunities that allow our students to take an active role in shaping the future of both the Sixth Form and the school as a whole. There are a number of Sixth Form dedicated trips, such as World Challenge and Iceland, which offer our students fantastic opportunities to visit and experience cultures from around the world. We also encourage and provide opportunities for our Sixth Formers to get involved in the school and local communities through our community service, peer mentoring and wider volunteering programmes.

An exciting and truly unique aspects of our Sixth Form are the fundraising events we undertake throughout the year. There are a number of individual events, such as the Sixth Form Christmas Market and the Easter Egg Hunt, which allow us to raise money for local charities such as the me2club. There is also our showpiece event, the Sixth Form Fundraising Week during which Sixth Formers and staff come together to put on a series of amazing shows/events for the lower school with the aim of raising money for a charity that is close to the hearts of the Sixth Form students. Our most recent fundraising week raised over £2000 for the charity 'Young Minds'. On a personal level, this event is always one of my proudest moments because it highlights many of the values which make our Sixth Form so special. It places the Sixth Form at the heart of the school community and the energy on show during the week demonstrates how selfless our Sixth Form students are and how dedicated they are to the school and to helping others who might be in need of support.

Overall, the Emmbrook Sixth Form supports its Sixth Formers from starting their journey to becoming successful, open-minded and resilient young adults. Whatever path they want to follow, we will guide them with expert teaching and outstanding advice. When they choose to join the Emmbrook Sixth Form, they are not just joining an institution that will enable them to succeed academically, they are joining a community which will support and care for them and where they will make lasting memories and lifelong friendships.

I look forward to welcoming you into our Sixth Form in September.

Best wishes,

David Constable – Head of Sixth Form



Introduction from our Head Students

Being part of this Sixth Form has been my favourite stage of education so far. The freedom awarded to students means they have more control over their own education, and learn valuable skills such as independence. While an element of independence is required to thrive in Sixth Form, support from staff is always accessible and I have found them to be willing to go above and beyond to help me, which I am extremely grateful for.

There is a notable difference in relationships between staff and students, as you progress from GCSEs to A levels. The staff acknowledge your choice to be here and henceforth your commitment to learning, and respect is therefore reciprocated. The freedom attached to Sixth Form life means time management is a vital skill, and one that the addition of study periods will help you develop. The Sixth Form study area aids with study periods by providing a quiet, calm environment to work in, with resources such as textbooks and computers at your fingertips. The common area is arguably equally as vital for Sixth Formers, as being able to unwind and relax helps with de-stressing and allows for more efficient working.

There is, however, much more to sixth form life than academia. The leadership opportunities here are a big reason why I, personally chose to stay on at Emmbrook, post-16. The newly-specified leadership roles means you get the chance to work as a team, while having your own individual goals and ambitions within the role. Sixth Form fundraising week further embodies the community feel of the school, providing plenty more opportunities for you to get involved within the Sixth Form.

I cannot imagine a more positive, friendly environment than this Sixth Form. Academic success here is a natural consequence that occurs as a result of mental health being prioritised. I truly believe it is a place where anyone can thrive, and where everyone is welcome

Mary Pratt – Head Student



When looking into Sixth Form, I had a lot to think about. I wanted to be in a space where I felt happy and safe and where I believed I would have the ability to thrive with my studies. Looking at the Emmbrook Sixth Form, I realised that the school I was already comfortable in was able to provide me with the Sixth Form environment I desired. The Emmbrook Sixth Form is a place where teachers and students work together to enable you to achieve your potential. Once in Sixth Form, you are treated more like adults. You build working relationships with the teachers, all of whom are approachable and have the best interests of the students at heart. My experience of Sixth Form has been amazing so far. I have been pushed to achieve more than I could imagine and I am so proud that I can contribute to the future of the school in my position as Head Student, a position which has been a dream of mine to fulfil. Come and take a look at the Emmbrook Sixth Form, we won't let you down!

Ashleigh Ackermann – Head Student



Pastoral Support in Sixth Form

Throughout their time at the Emmbrook Sixth Form each student is assigned to a dedicated tutor who supports them with their learning and wider experiences within the Sixth Form. They spend 25 minutes a day with their tutor, during which time they will undertake a range of activities to help them develop the correct mindset for A level study and to assist them with their progression plans.

VESPA Model

During year 12 our tutorial programme is based around the VESPA model. This is a tried and tested method for assisting A level students with developing the skills needed to be successful. It is focused on helping students move from a 'fixed' to a 'growth' mindset and provides them with the tools needed to embrace the challenges at A level and to be successful in their studies.



Progression

Students start to focus on their progression plans early in year 12 as part of the VESPA model. From May half term we shift our focus in tutorials to progression planning. All students are enrolled on the UCAS system and the tutors support each student with the writing of their personal statements. We encourage all students to write a 4000 character personal statement, even if they are not applying to UCAS, because it provides a foundation for any progression route. As an institution, we work closely with Wellington College to provide support for all our UCAS applicants, especially those looking at Russell Group universities. There is a dedicated section of the Sixth Form Sharepoint site aimed at supporting students through the progression process, exploring UCAS and a range of alternative progression routes. In addition, all of our tutors are experienced with personal statement writing and we have an excellent track record with supporting our students through their progression paths.

Academic Mentoring and Independent Study Periods

At the Emmbrook Sixth Form, we run a 9+1 model for our A levels. This means all subjects have 9 hours in the classroom plus 1 independent study period (ISP) per timetable cycle. This is designed to foster the independent learning skills A level students require. As part of the ISP system, each student is also assigned an academic mentor who guides them through their A level journey. The students meet with their mentor once every half term to discuss their progress within A levels. A copy of this meeting is shared with students, subject areas, and parents so that everyone is aware of the progress being made and any support needed to make the journey successful.



Social Aspects

Keeping a balance between school work and social life in Sixth Form is made easy through various social events. Key aspects are the frequent social events that occur outside of the school which help integrate the two years together. They also have various Sixth Form events such as fundraising week, which work on a similar level to integrate students. The social areas of the school create a great atmosphere between the two Sixth Form years.

Fundraising Week

The annual fundraising week organised by the Year 12 leadership team and supported by the fundraising committee, is an integral part of Sixth Form life. It involves the whole school and everyone participates enthusiastically. The week involves a range of events, all organised by the Sixth Form, and traditionally ends with a staff event. This is a fantastic opportunity to raise large amounts of money for the chosen charity, and have fun at the same time. Last year, the school raised over £2500 for their chosen charity. Participating in the fundraising week is a great way to develop team work and communication skills and also gain experience in planning events.

Community Service

As an Emmbrook Sixth Form student, you will complete 20 hours of community service over the course of the school year – roughly an hour a week, whether it be helping teachers in lessons, giving tours to parents or working for charities. This doesn't have to be completed within the school hours or on the school site. These extra-curricular activities enable students to develop a sense of community and are an excellent opportunity for them to be equipped with new, transferable skills. Collectively, this means thousands of hours of help for teachers in school and local voluntary organisations. The hours will be signed off by the form tutor and are a fantastic benefit when it comes to references for university.



Peer Mentoring

Peer mentoring is an excellent opportunity for Sixth Formers to work with students from the lower school who may need that extra bit of support during their studies. All Sixth Form students are offered this opportunity and are provided with the training and support needed in order to be a successful peer mentor. Peer mentoring takes a variety of forms; you could be paired with a student from Year 8 through to Year 11, support the homework club, or support a safe space for vulnerable students during break times. Peer mentoring enables you to develop a range of skills which are highly valued at university.

Leadership Opportunities

During Year 12, all students will be offered the opportunity to take on a leadership role within the Sixth Form and wider school. There are a number of Sixth Form committees, such as the fundraising committee and social and wellbeing committee, which you can join. Being part of a committee provides you with the opportunity to help shape the direction in which the Sixth Form moves forward. In Year 12, there is also the opportunity to be a House Captain for one of the four houses at the school. This allows you the opportunity to have a wider impact on school life by working with staff and the lower school to organise a range of extra-curricular events for the school. In Year 13, all students have the opportunity to apply to be part of the student leadership team and potentially take on the role of Head Student for the school. These are the most senior leadership opportunities available to students and allow you to take on a major role in the running of the school during your final year.

Trips

We pride ourselves on offering a range of extra-curricular opportunities to our students in the Sixth Form. All students are taken to a careers fair during year 12 and to a 'safe drive, stay alive' event aimed at new drivers. In addition, students are offered the opportunity to sign up to a range of trips, such as Iceland, which offer them unique opportunities whilst in Sixth Form. We also work closely with World Challenge who offer the Sixth Formers the chance to spend four weeks abroad contributing to a range of local and environmental projects, as well as developing a number of skills.



A Level Exam Results 2021

This year's outstanding results fairly reflect the remarkable efforts of our students and their strong desire to succeed.

The results mean that our students were able to progress to the next stage of their studies. At The Emmbrook we value the achievements of each and every student and the opportunities that are now before them, from those taking up places on courses at many of the UK's top universities, including Oxford, to those who are pursuing their career aspirations through high quality apprenticeships.

A*-A %	A*-B %	A*-C %
34.3%	57.9%	80.3%

We are so pleased that we were able to welcome back our students to collect their results in person, so that we could share the moment with them and acknowledge the fruits of their hard work and determination.

Student Quotes

Charlie Williams

It's been a challenging year but I feel it's been one with great opportunities and full of great memories.

Katie Hampton

An unpredictable year that really showed our resilience and determination and brought us together as a year group.

Cameron Clark

It was the winter of our discontent, I am delighted with my achievements!

Inspectors commented;

"Provision in the Sixth Form is good. Academic lessons meet students' needs well and they make good progress."

"At the end of the Year 13, students achieved well and the majority made expected progress."

"High-quality questions and opportunities to discuss activities enable learners to explore their thinking and deepen their understanding."

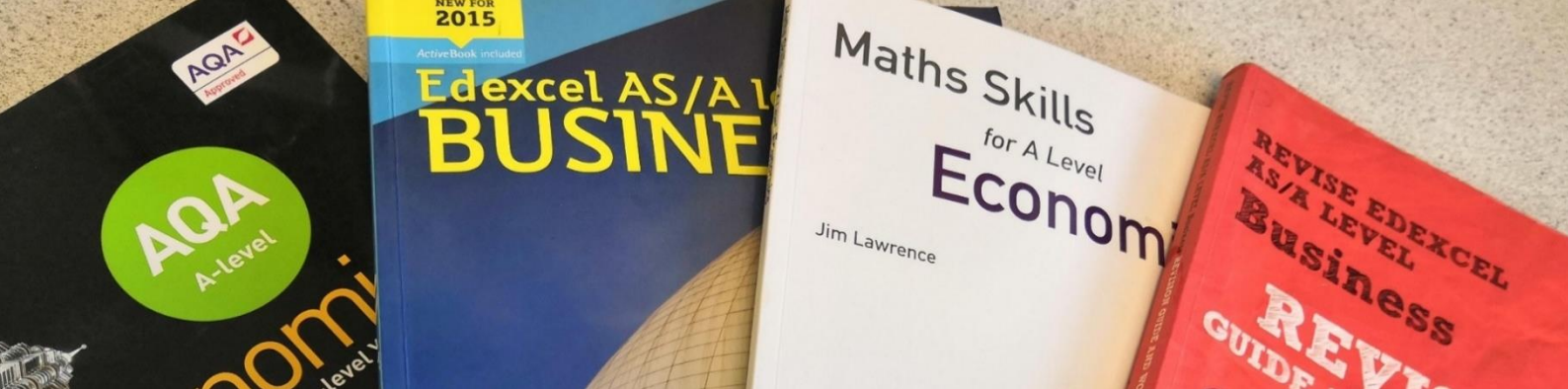


Subject Clusters.

Knowing which subject area you are keen to pursue at university can often help with the choice of A Level subjects you will take, below is a collection of subject clusters for a variety of university courses.

You are advised to consult the list provided by Russell Group universities at Russell Group in conjunction with more detailed information on the UCAS website and on university websites.

Accountancy	No subjects are essential although some Universities require Mathematics
Actuarial Science/Studies	Mathematics
Aeronautical Engineering	Mathematics and Physics
American Studies	Requirements vary but English and/or History are often asked for
Anthropology	No subjects are essential
Archaeology	No subjects are essential
Architecture	Some courses say they want an arts/science mix. Some may require Art
Art and Design	Art or Design Technology
Biochemistry	Always Chemistry and some degrees will say that you must have Biology as well, while some say choose one from Mathematics/Physics/Biology.
Biology	Biology and Chemistry
Biomedical Sciences (inc Medical Science)	Normally two from Biology, Chemistry, Mathematics and Physics. Chemistry is essential for some courses
Business Studies	No subjects are essential
Chemical Engineering	Chemistry and Mathematics and sometimes Physics as well
Chemistry	Chemistry and occasionally Mathematics. Most courses require Chemistry and would like Mathematics and one other science subject (for example, Physics or Biology)
Childhood Studies	No subjects are essential
Classical Studies	For Classics courses Latin or Ancient Greek are required
Computing	For some courses, Mathematics
Dentistry	Chemistry and Biology for most, some require Mathematics and Physics as well
Dietetics	Chemistry, Biology
Drama	Some require English Literature and a few English and/ or Theatre Studies
Economics	Usually Mathematics
Electrical/Electronic Engineering	Mathematics, Physics
Engineering (General)	Mathematics and Physics
English	English Literature. Some courses will accept English Language
Environmental Science/Studies	Many courses will ask for two from Biology, Chemistry, Mathematics, Physics and Geography
European Studies	A modern foreign language
French	French
Geography	Most degrees require Geography
Geology/Earth Sciences	Usually two from Mathematics, Physics, Chemistry, Biology, Geology and Geography



German	German (a handful of universities offer the opportunity to study German from scratch, without German A level)
History	Most degrees require History
History of Art	No subjects are essential
Italian	Italian or another language such as French, German or Spanish
Law	Usually none, although a few universities require English
Management Studies	Sometimes Mathematics
Materials Science (including Biomedical Materials Science)	Normally two from Chemistry, Mathematics, Physics, Biology (also Design Technology for some universities)
Mathematics	Mathematics and sometimes Further Mathematics
Mechanical Engineering	Mathematics, Physics
Media Studies (inc Comm Studies)	A few courses ask for English or Media Studies
Medicine	Chemistry, Biology and one from Mathematics or Physics will keep all the medical schools open to you. If you do Chemistry and Biology you will keep open the vast majority. If you do Chemistry and one from Mathematics and Physics you will limit your range of choices much more
Music	For most traditional courses, Music and Grade VII/VIII
Nursing and Midwifery	Usually Biology or another science including Psychology
Occupational Therapy	Some courses ask for Biology
Optometry (Ophthalmic Optics)	Two from Biology, Chemistry, Mathematics or Physics (some courses prefer Biology as one of the choices)
Orthoptics	Biology
Pharmacy	Chemistry and one from Biology, Mathematics and Physics keeps the vast majority of courses open to you. Some like to see Chemistry, Biology and Mathematics. Doing Chemistry and Biology keeps most courses open
Philosophy	No subjects are essential
Physics	Mathematics, Physics
Physiotherapy	Most courses will consider you with just Biology, however some also require a second science from Chemistry, Mathematics or Physics
Politics	No subjects are essential
Psychology	A few courses ask for one from Biology, Chemistry, Mathematics, Physics
Religious Studies/Theology	No subjects are essential
Sociology	No subjects are essential
Spanish	Spanish (some degrees will also consider French, German or Italian)
Speech Therapy	Some degrees want a science such as Biology, Chemistry or Physics. Some specify Biology, but some degrees will consider candidates with none of these
Sports Science/Physical Education	Many courses want to see one from Biology/Chemistry/Mathematics/Physics (some courses will treat Physical Education as a science equivalent). Psychology and Geography may also be accepted.
Surveying	No subjects are essential
Teacher Training (Primary or Secondary)	At least one National Curriculum subject
Veterinary Science	You should do Chemistry and Biology and one from Mathematics/Physics so that you have all universities open to you



Subject Entry Requirements 2022

	English	Maths	Other	
Biology	5	5	GCSE Combined Science 5	Biology 5
Business	4	4		
Chemistry	5	5	GCSE Combined Science 6	Chemistry 6
Computer Science	5	6	GCSE Computer Science 6	
Criminology	4			
Economics	5	5	GCSE Science 6	
English Literature	5		GCSE English Literature 5	
Fine Art	4	4	GCSE Art 5	
Further Maths	4	8		
Geography	4	4	GCSE Geography 5	GCSE Science 4
Government and Politics	4		GCSE History 4	
Graphic Communication	4	4	GCSE Art/DT/Media 5	
History	5			
Maths	4	7		
Media	5		GCSE Media 5	
PE A-Level	4		GCSE PE 5	GCSE Science 4
Physics	6	5	GCSE Combined Science 6	
Psychology	5	5	GCSE Combined Science 5	GCSE Science 5
Sociology	4			

2021 Destinations

Institution	Subject
University of Oxford	English Language and Literature
University of Warwick	Law History and Politics
University of Southampton	Sociology and Criminology Computer Science
Swansea University	Mechanical Engineering
UCL	Architecture
Bristol, University of the West of England	Computer Science Business
University of Portsmouth	Business and Management
University of Winchester	Primary Education
University of Birmingham	Geography Ancient History
Loughborough University	Criminology and Sociology Chemical Engineering
Royal Holloway	Computer Science Economics Mathematics
Queen's University Belfast	International Relations & Conflict Studies
University of Surrey	Sociology
University of East Anglia	Law
Cardiff University	Law
University of Reading	History
Solent University	Prosthetics and Special Effects Design

