



**EMMANUEL COLLEGE**  
*Emmanuel Schools Foundation*

11 December 2020

Dear Parent

As we approach the end of term, the atmosphere at Emmanuel is calm and purposeful as well as festive. I continue to be impressed by our students and the mature way in which they have navigated our first term back in College – the upcoming break is well-earned.

### **Change to term dates**

Further to my communication earlier this week, you will be aware that this term will now end on Thursday 17 December. In order to allow us to close to students a day earlier than planned, and to ensure we adhere to the government's expectation that schools retain 190 teaching days this academic year, **Thursday 1 April 2021** will no longer be a teacher training day and the last day of the spring term will now be Thursday 1 April, **not** Wednesday 31 March as previously published. A complete summary of term dates can be found [here](#).

### **Contact tracing**

In line with the government's advice, Emmanuel will continue contact tracing positive COVID-19 cases for six days after the last day of term. Given that the last day of term is now Thursday 17 December, this means that we will contact trace until **Wednesday 23 December**. If your child tests positive for COVID-19 **between the end of term and Wednesday 23 December**, the following procedure should be followed:

- Send a text message to the number **07593 451 537** between the hours of 9am and 4pm. The phone will only be monitored during these times.
- In the text message, please include:
  - o Name of the child who has tested positive
  - o Date of test
  - o Date of positive result
  - o If symptomatic, the date symptoms developed
- Please only send a text message if your child, a student at Emmanuel College, tests positive for COVID-19. You do not need to let us know if other family members test positive.
- **Please do not call the number.**

### **Uniform**

Many thanks to parents of students in Years 7-11 who have already purchased new uniform, particularly skirts, so that upon our return in January all students will be wearing uniform in line with the uniform code. As hairdressers are now open, we also ask that all parents ensure that hairstyles meet the expectations set out in the uniform code.

For parents of students in the sixth form, please ensure that uniform is worn in line with the sixth form uniform code, with particular reference to girls' skirts which need to be within one inch of the knee. If you need to purchase a new skirt to ensure that the uniform code is followed, please do so through the uniform shop.

### **Christmas charity initiative**

I would like to express my sincere gratitude to everyone who has donated to our Christmas charity initiative. We have raised over £3,000, which is fantastic news. There is still time for you to donate – you can either donate via ParentPay, your child can bring cash into College, or you can donate through our JustGiving page by clicking [here](#).

Please also remember that students may wear a Christmas/festive jumper on the afternoon of Wednesday 16 December as part of our Merry Christmas Emmanuel event. Students will be able to wear their jumper during the Christmas lunch period and for the duration of the afternoon. Jumpers will be worn over school shirts and ties. Normal College uniform should be worn when travelling to College, during the morning periods and when travelling home. We therefore request that jumpers are brought into College in students' backpacks and tutors will ask students to remove them before they leave.

Wearing a jumper is part of our Christmas charity initiative and so, if students would like to participate, we would ask that they contribute at least £1 to the charity appeal. Students may bring cash into College and hand it in to their tutor on the afternoon.

#### **Update on positive COVID-19 cases**

We have been informed of one new confirmed case of COVID-19 this week, a student in Year 7. We have identified close contacts and acted accordingly. We continue to liaise with Gateshead Public Health in regard to every positive case, who remain supportive of Emmanuel's procedures in response to the pandemic.

#### **Finishing the term well**

As we approach the end of term, we have been speaking to students about the importance of finishing the term well. Every day that we have in College is valuable and should be seen as an opportunity to learn and grow and, as such, we expect students to strive to achieve their best in each lesson. Crucial to this is that all students continue to demonstrate excellent conduct whilst in College and when travelling to and from College; therefore, the expectations of student conduct remain consistent with any other time of the academic year.

Yours sincerely

Matthew Waterfield  
**Principal**