



EMMANUEL COLLEGE

Emmanuel Schools Foundation

29 November 2021

Dear Parents and Carers

You will be aware that the situation in respect of Covid-19 is concerning at a local and national level with cases once again rising in Gateshead and some restrictions being reintroduced at a national level. Cases in College have also risen over the last week or so, both within the student body and within the staff team.

Our priority is to ensure as much continuity of learning as possible within the academic curriculum, particularly for those year groups that face external examinations later this year, whilst also seeking to take appropriate steps to reduce infection within College. With both of these considerations in mind we have decided to reduce the number of non-essential activities taking place during the College day. This will reduce student mixing and also free up crucial staff capacity. This means that all non-essential co-curricular activities will once again be paused. Students will remain in College until 4:00pm each day Monday to Thursday and 2:30pm on Friday, and use the time they would have spent in co-curricular activities for independent study under the supervision of their tutor. There are some important tasks and activities that students can use this time for, including acting on feedback from their teachers and engaging in reading. A very small number of essential activities will be allowed to run and students will be advised where this affects them. Non-essential visits and meetings will be cancelled, and staff professional development and quality assurance activities are also being postponed until next term.

In addition, next week (week commencing 6 December) we are asking all Year 12 students to study from home. Students will be advised by their teachers of the work they should complete during this week in preparation for their week 2 assessments which will be postponed by one week and will now take place during the week commencing 13 December when they return to College.

It is important for all students to do all they can to reduce the transmission of COVID in order to protect themselves, their friends, their teachers and their families by doing the following:

1. Bringing their own face covering to College each day to wear in communal areas and on public transport.
2. Maintaining social distancing where it is possible to do so.
3. Washing their hands regularly with soap and water for at least 20 seconds, or using hand sanitiser, regularly throughout the day.

This information has also been shared with students this afternoon via a live broadcast. I wish to thank you in anticipation of your understanding and support in our introduction of these measures as we approach the end of term.

Yours sincerely

Matthew Waterfield

Principal