



EMMANUEL COLLEGE
Emmanuel Schools Foundation

22 July 2022

Dear parents and carers

We've made it! A remarkable and demanding year which began in the depths of the pandemic has ended with so many visible signs of hope and recovery. This year has been very challenging at times for all of us, students, staff and parents but I have been exceptionally proud of the whole community and the way we have worked together as we move out of this time of national crisis.

It was wonderful to be together on Tuesday night for Presentation Evening. I want to pay tribute to the staff and students who made Tuesday such a special occasion. Students were particularly impressive throughout the evening both on and off the stage. One comment from one of our invited guests, who has been associated with the College for many years, summed up my feelings about what was achieved when he wrote that, "in spite of the heat, it was one of the best all round performances in terms of content, balance, as well as being true to the original aspirations of us all, in our thirty-two-year history." My particular thanks to Ms Wells who led the event from both a creative and logistical perspective and to the Mayor of Gateshead, Councillor Dot Burnett, who persevered in the heat in her robes and chains for the benefit of students receiving awards.

Staff changes

There are a number of staff changes that I would like to bring to your attention, starting with some farewells. Mr Bate and Mr Irwin have served this year in the languages department but will be taking up posts elsewhere in September. Mr Harding, who has been with us for the past couple of years, is also leaving and taking up a promoted position in our sister school – Christ's College, Sunderland. Miss Whittock and Mrs Hamill are leaving to further their careers elsewhere as is Mrs Taylor who is leaving Emmanuel after five wonderful years' service to the creative arts team. Mr Osman, Mrs Hennessey and Mr Ridley, who have been with us for over ten years and have made a positive difference in the lives of so many of our students, will be leaving this year. Mr Osman is moving to Newcastle to focus on his passion for Chemistry teaching while Mrs Hennessey takes up a promoted position in North Tyneside. Mr Ridley will take up the position of Head of Boys' School at Dame Allan's from September.

We have made a number of exciting appointments this year across the staff team and look forward to introducing new staff to you in September. We have also had the opportunity to make a number of internal changes and promotions and it is my pleasure to announce that with immediate effect Mrs Winter, who has been working in the admin office for the past few months, is our new Head of Administrative Services. Mrs Argent, who has taken a short break this year from senior leadership to enable her to support her young family, will be returning to the Senior Management Team as Assistant Vice Principal. Dr McMahan will take up the role of Head of Science. Mr Wiecek, who many parents will have worked with as Head of Year 8 and then Head of Year 10, will be taking up a promoted position in the Leadership Group as Parent/Carer Partnerships Lead. This is a new role focused on ensuring that all of our work with parents and carers is exemplary. This includes the formal set piece events such as parents' evenings and information evenings, reporting and sharing good news, and also how parents can feed into and support the life of the school and support their children most effectively. Mr Bryant will also be stepping into a new role in College in the student

welfare team and, although this will not happen immediately, we shall be looking to appoint a new Librarian when we return from the summer break.

I would like to thank Mr Stewart for his service in the role of Sixth Form Pastoral Lead. Mr Stewart is staying with us as a Chemistry teacher but will step back from pastoral responsibilities and will also be working part-time from September. Following a slight restructure and internal process, we have appointed two new Heads of Year in the Sixth Form and I am delighted to be able to confirm that from September, Miss Lowdon will be Head of Year 12 and Miss Wilson will be Head of Year 13. Mr Lloyd will remain Head of Sixth Form and will be supported by Miss Thompson who will continue in her role of Sixth Form Pastoral Lead.

There have been a few other changes in pastoral leadership in Years 7-11, which I have set out for your reference in the table below:

	Head of Year	Assistant Head of Year
Year 7	Miss Dickinson	Miss Walker
Year 8	Miss Lown	Mr Graham
Year 9	Miss Butterfield	Mr Yellowley
Year 10	Mrs McAloon	Dr Douglas
Year 11	Mr Ingham	Mrs Buckley

As some of you will know, Mrs McAloon will be taking a period of maternity leave and in her absence, Dr Douglas will be Acting Head of Year 10.

Uniform

In general, standards of uniform are exceptionally high. However, I do want to re-emphasise the importance of skirts being worn at the correct length. This requirement is not motivated by a need for modesty as I think some have suggested, but rather by a desire for high standards of smartness and fairness through consistency. The disruption of the past couple of years has made it more difficult for parents to ensure that the requirement that skirts touch the top of the knee when students are standing is adhered to. I wish to be clear, however, that in September this requirement will be very consistently upheld.

In a change to our uniform policy, I am pleased to be able to confirm that girls may now wear leggings for PE lessons in place of the skort. These must be purchased from the uniform shop (or, if purchased elsewhere, they must be identical in style to those available in the uniform shop). Girls may therefore choose to wear either the skort, leggings, or both.

Dates

Students receiving A level results this year will do so on Thursday 18 August. Please arrive for 8:00am when I will be speaking to the year group. Following this very short address, students will be able to collect their results and celebrate with friends and family. Staff will be in College all day on Thursday 18 August to provide support to any students who need it.

GCSE results day is on Thursday 25 August and will follow a similar format. On this day we start at 10:00am. Sixth Form enrolment will also take place on this day, with staff available to provide guidance and support on decisions relating to post-16 study. All students return to College on Wednesday 7 September.

I hope you are able to enjoy a well-earned break, time with friends and family, and time to prepare for what promises to be an exciting year ahead.

With kind regards

Mr M Waterfield
Principal