



EMMANUEL COLLEGE
Emmanuel Schools Foundation

9 September 2022

Dear Parents and Carers

It is with deep sadness that we mourn the death of Her Majesty The Queen. So many profound words have been spoken over the past day. I have personally found these words from Archbishop Justin Welby to be a most fitting tribute:

“As we grieve together, we know that, in losing our beloved Queen, we have lost the person whose steadfast loyalty, service and humility has helped us make sense of who we are through decades of extraordinary change in our world, nation and society. As deep as our grief runs, even deeper is our gratitude for Her Late Majesty’s extraordinary dedication to the United Kingdom, her Realms and the Commonwealth. Through times of war and hardship, through seasons of upheaval and change, and through moments of joy and celebration, we have been sustained by Her Late Majesty’s faith in what and who we are called to be. May Her Late Majesty Queen Elizabeth II rest in peace and rise in glory.”

In College today we have had opportunity to reflect and demonstrate our considerable respect and admiration for The Queen and to pray for her, her family and for The King.

It has been a pleasure and a privilege to welcome students back this week and a joy to welcome new students into the Emmanuel family. Students have been impressive in adjusting back into the routines of College life and in working hard in their lessons. Students have been particularly impressive today and appropriate in their response to this time of national mourning.

During the next week or so as we continue to mourn as a nation, we shall be limiting activities outside of the normal College day but continuing with our core business of teaching and learning each day. Students should attend school as normal unless further announcements are made. This means that many of the co-curricular activities we plan to run this term will not begin until the week commencing 19 September.

Parent and carer online information evenings

Our next events for parents will take place on Tuesday 20 September, which will be our online information evenings for parents of students in Years 7 and 12. Year 7 will take place at 18:00 online, and Year 12 will commence at 19:30, also online. Links for these events will be sent in due course.

These evenings are an opportunity to hear from me, the Head of Year and other key staff responsible for elements of your child's education. We do want all parents to watch live, if possible, or to watch on catch up shortly afterwards. Watching live will mean that you will have opportunity to ask and have questions answered during the event.

Dates and times for all year groups are as follows:

- Tuesday 20 September at 18:00 – Year 7
- Tuesday 20 September at 19:30 – Year 12

- Tuesday 27 September at 18:00 – Year 11
- Tuesday 11 October at 18:00 – Year 13
- Tuesday 1 November at 18:00 – Year 10
- Tuesday 15 November at 18:00 – Year 8

The information evening for Year 9 will take place later in the year.

New staff

It has been great to welcome new staff to Emmanuel at the start of this year. Miss Bainbridge, Ms O'Connor and Mr Herbane join us in the Languages department; Miss Breward joins us in the Creative Arts department to teach Drama; Miss Haslam joins us in the English department; Mr Bignell joins us in the Maths department; Mr D Thomson joins us in the PE Department; and Mr R Graham joins us in Science. We also have a new Catering Assistant, Mrs Gray, and a new Data and Exams Officer, Mrs Reynolds. We look forward to all that these individuals will bring to our community.

Travel and parking

Travelling to and from school can be challenging and with over 1600 people on site each day, it is important that we have systems in place that make this as straightforward as possible and keep everyone as safe as possible. Many of our students travel by bus or on foot, which is great because this reduces the number of vehicles on and around the site. Can I ask that if you do use a car to transport your child to and/or from school you do so in a way that is considerate to our neighbours and safe to everyone. Students are not allowed to cross Consett Road (the main road outside College) anywhere apart from at the traffic lights and they must not cross the main entrance to College even if accompanied by an adult. We recommend that parents use the large Watergate Park car park. Parents are not allowed to bring vehicles onto the site until after 16:15 each day. We are aware that there continue to be timing issues with the scholars' buses and are working energetically with the bus companies to resolve this issue.

Policy updates

I am sure that many of you will know that all policies, including a range of other information, are available on our website. There have not been many major changes to policies in readiness for this year but we have made some small adjustments to the Behaviour and Discipline Policy and ensured that all other policies have been revised where necessary in line with statutory guidance. There are two more significant changes that I would like to draw your attention to at this stage. The Code of Conduct has been restructured in order to make it more accessible and memorable. The Code of Conduct can be found in the study file and also on the website. Please do take some time to familiarise yourself with this document. The other major change that I would like to signal at this stage is the reintroduction of paper slips for detentions and study supports. Some will remember that this was the system in place before the pandemic. We shall take some time during the information evenings to talk more about this and other systems that all parents and carers should be aware of.

College Prayers

College Prayers is an opportunity for us to start the new academic year in thanksgiving and prayer and takes the form of a short 30-minute service. We shall sing together, be led in prayer and enjoy a short talk. All those in our College community are welcome to attend this event which will take place in College on Monday 26 September at 17:30.

Yours sincerely

Mr M Waterfield
Principal