



EMMANUEL COLLEGE
Emmanuel Schools Foundation

25 September 2024

Dear Parents and Carers

Thank you so much for attending the Year 11 Information Evening on Wednesday 18 September. It was a pleasure to meet with you and discuss the exciting, yet crucial journey that your child is about to embark upon in preparation for their GCSE exams next year. Your presence and support are key components of your child's success, and we are looking forward to having you as partners in this important phase of their education.

At Emmanuel College, we are committed to supporting your child to achieve their personal best. We recognise the significance of the upcoming year, and our dedicated staff will work tirelessly to ensure that every student is equipped with the knowledge, skills and mindset to excel in their GCSEs next year. However, as we outlined last week, a successful outcome next year relies not only on our efforts but also on the engagement and responsibility of each student.

Being Exam Ready

Preparing for GCSE exams is a marathon and not a sprint. Students are 'Exam Ready' now if they meet the following key principles:

1. **Being present for learning** – Regular attendance and active participation in every lesson are essential, particularly with the 'Retrieval Task' at the beginning of the lesson. Lateness and missing lessons can create gaps that may be hard to fill later.
2. **Being an active learner in class** - This means asking questions, engaging with the material, and contributing to discussions. Active learners take control of their learning process, ensuring they fully understand the content and can apply it effectively in exam situations.
3. **Being a responsible learner at home** - Good habits at home are just as important as what happens in the classroom. This includes setting aside regular time for study, completing homework, and revising class materials.
4. **Maximising the support I get** - Whether it's seeking help from teachers, attending after school 'Bridging the Gap' sessions or other in school interventions, using resources provided by the school, we want every student to know that support is always available. Encouraging your child to ask for help when needed is critical for their confidence and success in Year 11.

Please regularly check in with your child to see how they think they are doing with the above principles. If they can answer 'yes' to the thirteen questions below that were shared last week and can be found in the revision guide, they are on track to **'Being Exam Ready'**.

Key Questions

Was I in school each day?
Did I get to every lesson on time?
Did I reduce toilet visits to the absolute minimum?
Did I try my hardest with Retrieval and try my best with each question?
Did I focus on what the teacher was saying and think hard about what they were teaching me?
Did I ask questions when I did not follow something?
Am I proud of the quantity and quality of work that I produced during my independent practice?
Did I hand all my homework in on time this week?
If I struggled on any aspect of my homework, did I see the teacher in advance of the deadline?
Have I done any independent revision this week?
Did I revise of the techniques detailed in the Revision booklet?
If I was stuck on a topic this week, did I speak to my teacher about it?
Have I attended all the extra sessions of support that I have been invited to?

Revision Materials

We want to support to all students to achieve well this year. Your child will have received the following items to support them this year:

- 'How to Revise' guide
- Highlighters
- Flashcards
- 'Power to Perform' recipe booklet
- Revision checklists booklet for every subject
- Guide to looking after mental health
- Revision strategies postcard

Key Dates

- **25 November – 6 December:** Trial Exams 1
- **10 January:** Trial Exams results morning
- **15 January:** Year 11 Academic Consultation Evening
- **3 March – 7 March:** Trial Exams 2
- **8 May – 20 June:** GCSE Exams
- **21 August:** GCSE Results Day

Key Staff

- **Mr Ingham** – Senior Head of Year, Year 11
- **Miss Lovegreen** – Key Stage 4 Pastoral Lead
- **Mr Lloyd** – Assistant Vice Principal, Academic Standards
- **Mrs Scott** – Assistant Vice Principal, Student Welfare
- **Mrs Hall** - Vice Principal, Quality of Education

Year 11 Information Evening Presentation and Recording

To watch the Year 11 Information evening please [click here](#) and to view the presentation please [click here](#).

Once again, thank you for your continued support. Together, we can ensure that your child is prepared, motivated and confident as they approach their exams. If you have any questions or need further assistance, please do not hesitate to get in touch. Please note that a separate letter about how to order revision guides will be sent out shortly.

Yours sincerely

Mrs R Hall

Vice Principal (Quality of Education)