



Friday 25<sup>th</sup> June 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

## **RE: Weekly Update**

I am very proud of this community's engagement with Diversity Week, including the strong support for today's non-uniform event. The students have had lots of opportunities to broaden their understanding of important issues and have supported the work of [Just Like Us](#) through their fundraising.

## **Covid-19**

Please continue to engage with home testing and remember to report your results to the NHS [here](#) (please inform us of a positive result). We have now had at least two instances where a positive lateral flow test has prevented a potentially infectious individual returning to school and while I'm not a scientist, this suggests to me that testing is making a difference in our community. Remember any student with symptoms (new persistent cough, high temperature, loss of sense of smell or taste) must self-isolate (along with all members of the household) until a negative PCR test is secured. If your child has social contact with someone who tests positive outside of school please let us know and keep your child in isolation.

As I shared last week, there are emerging reports that the delta variant can present with different symptoms. These include:

- Headache
- Sore throat
- Runny nose

The official guidance regarding symptoms remains unchanged so this is to make you aware and ensure that you can be vigilant.

## **End of Year Parent Survey**

As I hope you know, we are so grateful for the support and positive engagement that we receive from parents. In order to continue our journey of improvement, I am very keen to hear your views about The Emmbrook. It's a relatively short survey that covers a wide range of areas and can be found [here](#).

## **Elevate Education Parent Webinar**

Over the coming year we will be partnering with Elevate Education to support our students to develop better study skills. On Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> July they will be presenting a webinar for parents on Technology and Focus, tackling one of our most asked for questions: "how do I get my child to stop using their phone while they're studying?"

They will be discussing:

- Technology addiction and how to reduce technology dependence
- Practical strategies and apps to minimise procrastination
- How to help students use technology productively to *enhance* their learning



Registration for all of our parents is free and the details are below:

- Topic: Technology and Focus
- Date: Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> July
- Time: 6 – 7pm
- Register at: <https://get.elevatecoaching.info/uk/register>

The webinar will be suitable for all year groups and all parents that register will be sent the recording and resources, so if you are unable to join live, you can still catch up on the webinar at a later date.

Further webinars from Elevate Education will be available throughout the next academic year

### **Arrangements for September**

We are awaiting updated Covid-19 guidance for schools regarding September. We have already had to postpone the Year 6 Induction Day for our new students and I fear that the Induction Day may be cancelled unless there is significant change to the current guidelines. It is therefore looking more likely that we may need to hold a Year 7 Induction Day in September as we did this year. I am conscious that you need to make arrangements for the start of term and so I expect to be able to confirm the start dates for each year group shortly. I really do appreciate your patience.

It seems remarkable that we are already approaching the mid-point of this half-term. It remains a busy time of year, with Year 12 having sat assessments this week and Year 10 next week. We wish them all the best of luck with those. Although it remains some way off, I thought it would be useful to confirm that the summer holiday will begin at 12.20pm on Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> July. School buses have been rearranged for the half-day, however, students who use public buses will need to make suitable alternative arrangements.

We have begun visiting the primary schools in the area to introduce Year 5 students to the transition process and I must say that meeting the students has been so much fun. I was particularly proud to have visited Emmbrook Junior School this morning with one of their former students, Tom from Year 7. He spoke brilliantly to the Year 5s about his experience of transition and his time at The Emmbrook. He was an inspiration and it was particularly lovely to see his former teachers at the junior school impressed. He really is a young man that all of the Emmbrook schools can all be very proud of!

Best wishes,

**Nick McSweeney**  
Headteacher