

Dear Parents and Carers,

We hope this letter finds you and your family well. The half term holiday is now here and we hope it brings with it the good weather that will allow us all to get outside and take advantage of our unlimited exercise – with an appropriate social distance, of course.

The last couple of months have been difficult for all of us and we are missing our students more than we thought possible. We would like to take another opportunity to say thank you to you for all of your support and strength during this time. The response to distance learning from the vast majority of our students has been exemplary and we couldn't be more proud of them. They definitely deserve massive congratulations and our utmost admiration.

We are still waiting for further guidance from the Department for Education in respect of their request for the school to provide Year 10 students with 'face to face support' before the summer holiday. We know that next Thursday 28th May, during half term, they will announce whether they advise schools to move to this next stage. As a school we will work with the guidance that is provided both by the government and by our local authority. However, as we have stated before in letters to you, we have no prior knowledge of what these announcements are before they are made. Once they are made, we have to wait for information to come through from the Department for Education, which often can be delayed. From listening to you all, we do understand that parents have very different views on this matter and some families also have health issues that may prevent them from taking up any offer. With this in mind we have written to Year 10 parents separately to ask that if we are able to offer some part-time, small group work in school later next half term who would like to take up the offer. This is so we can get a good idea of numbers and, therefore, allow the school to be able to plan effectively. We will contact Year 10 parents again about this after the half term.

We will start next term with all students continuing to work via MS Teams and our offer on this platform will be developed over the course of the next half term. Again, any changes will be manageable and communicated to you all clearly in advance.

Over the course of this week we have run a virtual Chorlton Arts Festival and all we can say is wow – we certainly did #rockthelockdown. All of the students and staff involved have excelled themselves. What an incredible event! Many tears have been shed – certainly from the Chorlton High staff who are reminded at each event just how incredible our student population is and how much we miss them.

Over half term we wish for all our students to relax and take a break from distance learning. We are also aware that the days are long for us all with the lockdown measures and so for those who want to challenge themselves during the half term, please see our website using the following link: <https://www.chorltonhigh.manchester.sch.uk/chs-distance-learning/half-term-activities>

Here you will find 5 daily challenges put together by the school that students can get involved in. If your student does, please let us know how they go on using the email address: proud@chorltonhigh.org.uk. It really brightens up our day.

May you have a wonderful and well-earned break. Stay safe and well.

Chorlton High School