

Dear Parents and Carers,

This week's letter is focused on the long term plan moving into the Autumn term and sharing with parents key information about when the full details of this will be communicated with you. It is also an opportunity for us to gather some key feedback on our distance learning curriculum. Finally, for parents of our Year 9 students, we also want to share with you an offer of a face to face session for before the summer holidays.

Face to face session for our Year 9 students:

It has been many weeks since we last had Year 9 students in the building and although staff have been making phone calls we would like to offer the opportunity for every Year 9 student to come in and have a one-off, face to face, session with their form tutor/attached tutor.

Students would have the opportunity to:

- Talk about their experiences and wellbeing.
- Discuss home learning and talk through any issues they may still be having.
- Consider what they have learnt - skills as well as knowledge.
- Look at areas they still need to focus upon ready for their hopeful return in September.

Most importantly, it offers a valuable opportunity to both reconnect within school building and see the new social distancing procedures we now have in place to keep everyone safe and secure, as well as see their form tutor for a well needed catch-up.

What will happen during this session?

Students will be in school for an hour; they will meet, sit and talk through the above with their form tutor and one or two other members of their form. There will be an opportunity for both group and individual conversations, depending on need. Mrs Dodds will also be on hand to say hello, alongside members of the Safeguarding and Access and Achievement Teams.

As per regulations, we have implemented very clear health and safety procedures.

- All students will be required to wear their uniform.
- On arrival, students attending the session will need to line up outside reception - using the socially distanced markings on the floor.
- Each student will then enter through reception and pass in front of our thermal camera.
- Each student will then go to the Drama corridor toilets, where they will wash their hands and then move into the Blue Box Theatre. The Theatre will be set up to ensure guidelines are adhered too and both students and staff are comfortable.
- Students will then move to their designated meeting place.
- The face to face session will last 50 minutes, after which students will wash their hands again and then be dismissed to go straight back home.

There are 4 sessions over the day and the form tutor has allocated students carefully, considering groupings. Details of allocated timings will be sent out next week. Can I please ask that students stick to the times and groups given as we have little capacity for change? In the meantime, stay safe and know that we are looking forward to seeing each and every student in the last week of term.

Distance Learning Curriculum Feedback

This period of distance learning has been longer than any of us anticipated and your early feedback helped us to shape our Distance Learning curriculum offer to students. We would like to say a huge thank you to all of you for supporting your child with their distance learning during this time. You have all done an incredible job, in the most difficult circumstances, in supporting your child to move onto a completely new platform, from Doodle to MS Teams, and in sharing all of our training and support material with them. You have guided them to follow a flexible timetable that suits them and ensures they focus on key subjects every day.

We have been so pleased with student engagement in MS Teams and we thank you for the number of students who log in and work hard throughout the week, every week. We know it is very difficult and we are all doing our best at this time. More than anything, we look forward to seeing students again and supporting them through a RESTORE curriculum that addresses their academic and personal well-being – supporting them to become successful, happy and creative students at CHS. As we prepare and look forward to a return in September, we would like to review our Distance Learning curriculum and your feedback is a crucial part of that process.

We ask that you take some time to sit with your child and complete the following survey together: <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/KLTDBYX>

Students have also been sent a survey via MS Teams and we would love for you to encourage them to complete this.

Looking forward to September:

We very much welcome the idea that we will have all our students back in school with us next term. They have been away for far too long and we are keen to see them again, to inspire them with high quality classroom learning with their teachers. The official guidance from the Department for Education was only released to schools yesterday, and as a leadership team we have already started to look at how we can implement it safely and consistently. I do have to prepare parents at this time that the way that we will run school in September will need to be different to how it was run before school closure. As we will need to put into place control measures for a number of aspects in school, to minimise the mixing of students and to support the advice from Public Health England.

As we stated in last week's letter, we will aim to bring students back into school in a supportive and phased way. This will mean that we will be starting students on different days to properly support them with the new routines that we need to adopt for our community to feel safe and secure for the Autumn Term. This means that we will be planning to have a 'transition' back into school for all students. We have had the experience

of doing this with our Year 10 students over the past few weeks and we have been really impressed with how they have responded to this in such a responsible manner. We will share the details of this information with parents fully by the end of this term.

In addition to planning for a full return to school in September, we have also put together a continuity plan in case students are not able to be in school for external reasons, for example because there is a need to close schools temporarily due to a local lockdown. In the event of this we would be able to revert to our Distance Learning programme, and staff are preparing this to run alongside the classroom curriculum. The survey that is attached to this letter will help us evaluate how we continue to develop this next year.

We are fully aware that at present there are many questions about what school will look like and we will aim to communicate with you the answers to these questions before we break up for the summer holidays.

I would like to thank parents once again for all their support and patience in what is an extremely challenging situation for us all.

Kindest regards,
Chorlton High School