

Dear Parents and Carers,

We hope this weekly update finds you and your family well. We are now approaching week 4 of the summer term and all our staff are missing our students immeasurably. We are hoping for some further guidance from the government over the weekend about the plan moving forward regarding school closures and will update you with any further information as soon as we can.

Information included in this letter is as follows:

- 1. MS Teams update**
- 2. Reading Opportunities revisited**
- 3. Phone contact with families**
- 4. Wellbeing advice**
- 5. Supporting weekly routines**

1. MS Teams update:

We are blown away by the number of students who have engaged with MS Teams across all year groups. We have only been using this software for three weeks and are all learning together. Teachers are working hard to produce and share useful resources and this will continue to develop as we move forward. Thank you so much for everything you are doing to support us and your child at home. We wanted to give you a few updates

- From Monday, all subjects for all Year groups will be available through MS Teams.
- The MS Teams App is available for all Phones and Tablets. MS Teams can run very well through this App.
- Don't forget you can now download the Office package for free onto your personal device through Office 365.
- There have been lots of exciting developments each week on Teams, with lots of teacher videos and narrations to model and explain key concepts across subjects. Look out for them in the Posts and Files section of Teams. Assignments are being set across Year 9 and 10 in a variety of subjects. Students complete and submit these to their teacher – they find them in the Posts and Assignments sections.
- Year teams have been set up on MS Teams for each Year group to give some personal messages directly to students from their Head of Year and the Pastoral team – focusing on supporting students to be creative, successful and happy whilst distance learning.
- Remember to use subject help emails to communicate any issues with teachers – e.g. Englishhelp@chorltonhigh.manchester.sch.uk and the MicrosoftHelp@chorltonhigh.manchester.sch.uk for any technical issues.

2. Reading Opportunities revisited:

Last week we sent a wealth of information out about reading opportunities for your child and these resources have been accessed by a large number of our students. It would be great to see all our students engage with these reading opportunities. More information about these can be found on our website, using the following link: <https://www.chorltonhigh.manchester.sch.uk/chs-distance-learning/the-importance-of-reading/chs-e-library>

3. Phone contact with families

Our pastoral staff have also been working hard over the past few weeks to make phone contact with all our families. These calls are being made from work mobile numbers, so you may receive a call from a number you do not recognise. If you do, please answer, as its most likely one of our staff checking in with you. If we don't manage to reach you by phone, we will send you an email. Please do respond to our calls and emails; even when your children are not in school we care about them and you.

During our weekly calls we have noticed a number of commonalities around increased anxiety and how to maintain routines for both parents and students during this time of isolation. We wanted to share with you some guidance available, or coming soon, around these areas of concerns.

4. Wellbeing advice

For wellbeing advice, please check out our website for some top tips and guidance about how to support this at home. Link for this is here: <https://www.chorltonhigh.manchester.sch.uk/chs-distance-learning/happy/wellbeing>

5. Supporting weekly routines

Routines, the importance of these and what they can look like will be the main topic discussed during our Year group assemblies, which will be released on our website next week. We will be using Microsoft Teams to share these directly with our students. The link for the assemblies can be found here:

<https://www.chorltonhigh.manchester.sch.uk/chs-distance-learning/happy/virtual-year-group-notice-board>

As part of supporting realistic routines, a member of our team put together the following weekly routine to support students. This has been trialled with a small group of students already and they said they found it really helped to focus them. Please feel free to use the below guidance to support your conversations. This will also be shared directly with students using Microsoft Teams over the course of next week.

Using a routine to be **SUCCESSFUL** | **CREATIVE** | **HAPPY**

Having a routine every day can help you manage your home distance learning and become really effective at self-study. Use the list below to help manage your routine. You can format the box for each day and fill it green if you complete the task that day!

SUCCESSFUL

	M	T	W	T	F
I logged onto my online distance learning e.g. on Teams/Doodle	<input type="checkbox"/>				
I completed my English distance learning from Microsoft Teams	<input type="checkbox"/>				
I completed my Maths distance learning from Microsoft Teams	<input type="checkbox"/>				
I completed my Science distance learning from Microsoft Teams	<input type="checkbox"/>				
I completed work from my option subjects distance learning from Microsoft Teams/Doodle	<input type="checkbox"/>				
I did some reading [up to 30 mins] e.g. reading a book, an online article	<input type="checkbox"/>				

CREATIVE

	M	T	W	T	F
I spent some time practising a skill or on a hobby	<input type="checkbox"/>				
I extended my learning by doing an activity like watching a film, tv programme, listening to a podcast, online museum tour	<input type="checkbox"/>				
I worked on the Passion Project for this week	<input type="checkbox"/>				
I tried out a creative Instagram / Twitter challenge set by teachers	<input type="checkbox"/>				
I have used my creativity in some way!	<input type="checkbox"/>				

HAPPY

	M	T	W	T	F
I have watched my year group assembly for this week	<input type="checkbox"/>				
I did some exercise	<input type="checkbox"/>				
I talked to my family about my day and how I am feeling	<input type="checkbox"/>				
I chatted with friends through call, video chat or message	<input type="checkbox"/>				
I did something kind for someone else e.g. washing up, making a drink for someone at home, ringing a grandparent	<input type="checkbox"/>				

Signed: _____ [student]

Signed: _____ [parent/carer]

Thank you once again for all of your support over the last seven weeks. We wish you a restful and sunny bank holiday weekend.

Stay safe and well,
Chorlton High School