

Friday 18<sup>th</sup> February 2022

Dear Parents and Carers,

We want to say well done to our students for a half term of hard work and perseverance in their studies. When students return next half term they will be completing their progress tests or mock exams (Year 11). All information needed for this has already been shared with students and is also on our website:

Year 11 - <https://www.chorltonhigh.manchester.sch.uk/student-life/assessment-and-reporting/year-11-mock-exams>

Year 7-10 - <https://www.chorltonhigh.manchester.sch.uk/student-life/assessment-and-reporting/year-7-9-progress-tests>

As we return after the half term we will be making some changes that we wish to inform parents about.

As our Year 7 and 8 parents will be aware, students have been using a temporary space at lunch time, however, the first day back we will be moving these Year groups into the main canteen. Whilst this will mean they will be sharing the main space with one other Year group, they will still be lining up within Year groups, sitting on their own side of the canteen whilst eating and will remain in the same section of the playground designated for their Year group when they have finished lunch. This is a cautious but positive move as we begin to look forward to enabling the Year groups to share communal spaces and experiences again. Students have been informed about this change.

The regularity of communication over the last two years increased as we felt it was important to keep parents up to date with the many changes that have taken place during this time. As we move into next half term and hope that we will have less change to respond to, we want to return to our usual half termly Year group letter and our two weekly Chorlton Connection newsletter. We feel this will make communication more purposeful and more easily referenced by parents.

We wish to thank parents for their support with all the changes in respect of public health measures. When we start back, we will no longer require students to wear face coverings in school. We understand that some students may wish to continue to wear them and we will support them in doing so. We are mindful that the situation may change, and if this is the case then we will inform parents.

We also promised to share the outcomes of the recent survey regarding Parents' Evenings. We will look review this feedback further as we move forward and use it to support decisions about how events are held in the future. We will, of course, share this with you as we go through the year.

Summary of findings from parents surveyed.	School Response to findings
91% of the parents surveyed found logging into the booking system easy or very easy.	It is a really intuitive system and we are pleased to see the vast majority of our parent community are finding it easy to log in. Please do contact the school (via <a href="mailto:admin@chorltonhigh.manchester.sch.uk">admin@chorltonhigh.manchester.sch.uk</a> ) if you are struggling with logging in so we can help you with this.

<p>90% of the parents surveyed found starting the video calls easy or very easy.</p>	<p>We are still finding that some parents are experiencing some technical problems and we hope to address these as we move forward.</p>
<p>Some parents felt that 5 minutes was not long enough.</p>	<p>In most cases 5 minutes is long enough for the teacher to share key information about your child. If you require a more in-depth conversation, we always recommend arranging that with the member of staff outside of a parents' evening. Unfortunately, whether parents' evening is held virtually or in person, 5 minutes is the maximum amount of time per teacher that we can offer. Our teachers often teach all Year groups and so complete one parents' evening every half term, apart from in Summer 2 when we hold many other afterschool enrichment events.</p>
<p>49% of parents would like a virtual parents' evening. 35% would like an in-school parents' evening. 17% think it depends on the event.</p>	<p>This is encouraging and we will aim to do a mixture of both virtual evenings and in person evenings. We cannot do both at the same time due to the need for technology and the set-up of an in-person evening. We are planning to offer a mixture of both virtual and in-school parents' event as our students move through the school.</p>
<p>Other comments made</p>	<p>We are currently going through other comments as these are really useful when planning for the future. However, due of the anonymous nature of the survey, please can we urge any parents who are awaiting a response to a question asked around parents' evening to send it to <a href="mailto:admin@chorltonhigh.manchester.sch.uk">admin@chorltonhigh.manchester.sch.uk</a> for the attention of the relevant member of staff.</p>

Have a wonderful half term break,  
Chorlton High School