

Friday 3rd December 2021

Dear Parents/Carers,

It has been an exciting time at Chorlton High School of late culminating in our annual Musical which will be showing during the evening on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday next week. This year's production is Hairspray. If you are interested in attending, limited tickets are available from the school Reception.

As we near the end of term, we want to update parents and carers about some important arrangements for the final week that you need to be aware of:

- On **Thursday 16th December** we will be having our **Christmas Dinner Day**. This will be observed in a socially distance manner (so it may well take us all day!) It is also our **Christmas Accessories Day**, when students can accessorise their uniform with a festive item, in return for a donation to their Year group charity.
- On **Friday 17th December** we have an **early finish**: all Year groups will finish at **1.45pm**.

Announcements from the Department for Education summary and things to be mindful of:

Over the past week there have been several announcements from the Department of Education in light of developments in respect of Covid-19. Below is a summary changes and how these effect students.

Face Coverings:

Face Covering should be worn indoors by students. They may remove them for their lessons. We request that all students take responsibility for bringing these in each day. For any students who are struggling to obtain a face covering due to hardships issues, they should speak to their Head of Year who will provide them with a reusable mask that they can keep and bring in each day.

Testing at home:

We encourage all students to continue with their twice weekly lateral flow testing at home. This has been really successful in identifying when students are positive without showing any symptoms.

Contact Tracing and Isolation.

The current guidance remains in place. Close contacts of those testing positive do NOT need to self-isolate under normal circumstances. However, in a change to recent guidance, if you or your child receives the results of a PCR tests and is informed that it is the Omicron variant, then all close contacts must self-isolate for 10 days.

We will continue to follow the advice from our local Public Health team and will alert parents (via email) if their child has been a class with a student who has tested positive.

On site testing In January.

We have been informed that students will need to complete an onsite Covid-19 test again at the start of term in January, just as they did in September. The Department for Education have asked schools to this to prevent transmission following the holiday period. This will affect the times and dates that students return, as they will have to be tested before the return to school. This will, therefore, mean that we have a staggered return time for all students as we did at

in September. We are currently awaiting some further details from the DfE regarding this process, and we will confirm with parents the time slots for each Year group/form as soon as possible.

Finally, we understand that putting in place such changes can be frustrating for us all.

We are also acutely aware that we may have to make further changes as we respond to changing advice from the Department of Education and Public Health England. We will inform parents of any changes as soon as possible. However, we would like to sincerely thank you for your support.

Kind regards,
Chorlton High School

