

Dear Parents/Carers

We are very much looking forward to welcoming our students back to school next week. In addition to the previous information about start times we thought it would be appropriate to give parents and carers a summary of the significant and noticeable changes we have made to the general operation of the school. The most recent Department for Education advice has been used to plan our response and we will continue to review and amend as needed. The information contained in this email is a summary as we will explain to all our students, once we return, all of our changes during the first day at school.

We are delighted to be able to welcome back all of our students and have been busy planning the details of how school will run smoothly and safely in September. All students will be back to school full time and will follow the full curriculum. The students will largely remain in the 'bubble' of their year group. They will have dedicated outside space during social times and students will also use different dining areas from the students in other year groups. Unfortunately, we will not be able to offer a breakfast service until further notice. We will be offering a full break and lunchtime service. Students will need credit loaded to their accounts ready for their first full day back. We will be issuing all students with a contactless card to replace the previous biometric finger print system.

The end of the school day will be slightly staggered to allow students to leave safely. Some other changes will be introduced to enable the smooth flow of students around the school during lesson changeovers, including one-way systems. Additional hand washing facilities have been arranged in school as well as new sanitisation stations on all entrances. Students will also find that toilets are restricted to certain year groups. There will also be a strict classroom entry routine, which will require students to sanitise their hands at the start of every lesson. An exit routine will also see students safely back onto the corridor in an orderly way. We have arranged for a much-increased cleaning regime to operate in school before, during and after the end of the school day.

We are unable to offer extra-curricular activities unless they are to a specific year group bubble. Therefore, our offer will be limited compared to previous years but should begin to expand as the autumn term progresses. Our intention to follow the full curriculum also extends to PE lessons. The PE curriculum will be delivered in line with both Department for Education guidance and the relevant advice offered by the National Governing Body of each specific sport. Our recent investment in our sports facilities means that we should be able to make use of our excellent outdoor spaces for most activities. Within our changing rooms and across our PE equipment we have arranged for extra cleaning to be carried out between each lesson. On the days that student have PE lessons they will only change into their PE kit in time for their timetabled lesson.

Students will be required to attend school in full school uniform. The normal behaviour policy will obviously still apply, as will additional rules regarding safety and social distancing. We have increased signage to remind students and provided two metre markings where appropriate. We will be unable to routinely lend out any basic equipment, so it is more important than ever for students to bring with them all of the equipment that they will require

for the school day. Students should also bring a full bottle of drinking water to school every day. There will be extra, foot operated, water fountains installed in our dining halls.

As we are sure you are aware, the government has updated national guidance on face masks. Students will be required to wear a face mask whilst on the corridors and in communal areas within school. **Students should bring their own face mask for this purpose.** We ask you to ensure that this is close fitting and an appropriate design. It is essential that face masks are used correctly:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/face-coverings-in-education/face-coverings-in-education>

We will review our policy on face masks weekly. There will be further communication should guidance be updated or altered. Those students that, for medical reasons, are exempt from wearing a face covering should let their relevant Head of Year know via email.

We have recently received information about school bus services for September from TfGM. The school bus timings and routes have been posted on our website. Face masks will need to be worn by students on public transport and dedicated school buses.

We recognise that COVID-19 has affected families in different ways. If you have any specific concerns and you would like us to know so we can support your child, please get in touch. This can be via a phone call in September or an email when convenient. Thank you to those parents/carers who have already done so. We will not discuss this with your child unless this is your/their wish and we will not share any information beyond the people you specify (generally Form Tutors, Head of Year and Student Support team).

Support can be put in place when needed, both from key staff including our Pastoral leads/School Counsellor in school or people outside of CHHS that we can refer to. Some form time activities and PHSE lessons will address aspects of COVID-19 when we look at Resilience and Mental Wellbeing when back in school.

I am sure you will understand that we will be limiting visitors to the school site, parents/carers can still drop off their children in the usual way but we ask that you remain in your vehicles. Parents/carers will be allowed on to the school site by appointment only. You will be aware of the disproportionate effect of Covid-19 on individuals of a Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic (BAME) background - if you have any specific concerns please contact us to discuss in September. Please do not bring in any forgotten equipment, eg PE kit, packed lunch etc as our Reception staff will not be able to accept them to you, or deliver to your children.

Current guidance states that students who have been identified as extremely clinically vulnerable can attend school from September. However, if you have any specific concerns, please contact us to discuss this in September.

In order to keep our school community safe, we ask that if someone in your household shows symptoms of Covid-19, please inform us at the earliest opportunity via email at enquiries@chhs.org.uk.

Please do not send your child into school if they are showing signs of COVID-19.

We have attached a guide to Covid-19 related absences for your information.

Full and up to date guidance on what to do if someone in the household displays symptoms of COVID-19 is available at <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-stay-at-home-guidance>

We know that there is a possibility that government guidance may change and we will ensure that we communicate any updates to plans as and when they occur.

Finally, we would like to remind you again that we begin the new academic year with our amended school day a diagram of which is available on our website within the 'Term Dates' section.

Thank you in advance for your support.

CHHS