

Our Ref:
Your Ref:
Contact: JM
Tel: 01236 794890
E-mail: enquiries@chrystonhigh.n-lanark.sch.uk
Date: 7th August 2020



Education and Families
Jonny Mitchell
Head Teacher
Chryston High School
Lindsaybeg Road
Chryston
G69 9DL
www.northlanarkshire.gov.uk

Dear Parent/Carer,

I do hope this letter finds you and your family safe and well. I also do hope that over the summer break you have had opportunities to rest and recharge, whilst keeping informed of the many national updates that continue to impact on all of our lives.

As I am sure you are aware, last week the Scottish Government announced updated guidance for schools for the start of our new session. Since then, we have been working very hard to prepare for a safe return to school and learning for all of our young people and staff. You will also have read in the letter sent to all families earlier this week that young people will be returning to school from Wednesday 12th August.

Arrangements

We are very much looking forward to welcoming all young people and staff back to school. Arrangements for returning to school are as follows:

| | |
|-----------------------------------|--|
| Tuesday 11 th August | INSET Day 1 – No pupils attend school |
| Wednesday 12 th August | S1, S2 & S3 pupils attend school (8.55am) |
| Thursday 13 th August | S1, S4, S5 & S6 pupils attend school (8.55am) |
| Friday 14 th August | All pupils attend |

Before young people attend for their first day back at school, you will receive a text message from the school to indicate which room your child will report to and register in on their first day. During this first period, in addition to hearing about our safety and well-being arrangements, young people will receive their new Timetable and all other relevant information as they would at the beginning of any other school session.

Staff and young people's safety and well-being is of paramount importance and many additional arrangements are in place to support them. Information regarding many of these arrangements can be accessed on North Lanarkshire Council's school plans website and I'd ask you to click the following links to make yourself familiar with them:

www.northlanarkshire.gov.uk/schoolplans

<https://www.northlanarkshire.gov.uk/index.aspx?articleid=35006>



INVESTORS
IN PEOPLE | Accredited
Until 2021



With this in mind, young people will enter and exit our building as follows until further notice:

| | |
|------------|--|
| S1 & S6 | Main Entrance |
| S2 & S5 | Entrance at Home Economics |
| S3 & S4 | Entrance at Maths/Humanities |
| End of Day | Young people will exit via the nearest exit point (with staggered arrangements in place) |

Staggered arrangements will be in place throughout the school day to support safe travel from one area of the school to another and will be communicated with all young people during their induction.

Additionally, I ask that young people arrive at school as close to 8.55am as possible every day and use our outside space around the building on arrival/during social times throughout the day as far as possible. Year group specific social areas/arrangements have also been identified inside school to be used where necessary (including inclement weather) and will be communicated with young people accordingly.

Furthermore, we have implemented some other arrangements and routines which will be communicated with all staff on the INSET day and with all young people during their induction when they arrive in school next week. These arrangements include:

- Hand sanitiser stations at entrances, exits, around the building and in each classroom
- A movement throughout the building system, guided by clear signage
- Enhanced cleaning throughout the school day and out-with school hours
- Extended blocks of learning to further reduce movement around the building (more frequent double periods)
- Anti-bacterial spray/wipes in each classroom (clean as you go facilities)
- Physical distancing strongly encouraged wherever practically possible in line with Scottish Government guidelines

Unfortunately, at this time and until further notice, no visitors including parents/family members can access the school unless by arranged appointment with a senior member of staff. I am aware that this is not how we are used to working as a school nor how we want it to be but your understanding over this is very much appreciated – most conversations will take place over the telephone. If you are arranging to drop off/pick your child up at the beginning or end of the school day, please arrange to do that outside the school grounds as much as possible, however, if you require to access ‘drop off zones’ in the grounds, parents and family members are asked to remain inside their car.

If any member of your family show symptoms of COVID-19 your child should not attend school and we ask that you contact the school to communicate with us. If your child displays symptoms during their time in school, we will call for them to be collected.

For more information regarding our safety measures and arrangements, please refer to our Return to School Risk Assessment (August, version 1) which is on our school website.

School Uniform

Full uniform should be worn as normal and school bags may also be brought to school. S6 pupils will receive their S6 tie when they return to school on Thursday 13th August – they should attend on their first day wearing their S5 Senior tie. PE arrangements will be advised and communicated with young people by their teachers – guidance is that PE at the moment will be outdoor.

School Transport

School Transport will continue as normal, social distancing does not apply on school transport as it is an extension to the school estate.

School Meals

Our catering team will be operating and a range of healthy meals will be available. As always, young people are encouraged to stay on site during lunch time, however, if they are choosing to use other local facilities in the community they must adhere to all Scottish Government guidelines, including wearing a mask in shops. Please discuss with and remind your child as appropriate.

SQA

Many of our young people have achieved very positive results again this year. Indeed, 20% of our young people have attained 5 Higher (A-C) passes in S5 this year – the best performance our school has had to date and similarly, 45.5% of young people in S5 achieved at least 3 Higher (A-C) passes, again, the best our school has ever performed in this measure. All of our young people are to be congratulated on their efforts during the most challenging of circumstances this year, we are proud of each and every one of them. I am extremely grateful for the support of parents, families and staff. We look forward to building on these successes in the new session. Throughout this week, some families and young people have contacted us to discuss SQA matters including the Appeals Service. If you still require to contact us then please do so early next week. SQA guidance regarding appeals can be found on:

<https://www.sqa.org.uk/sqa/94420.9911.html>

As always, if you require to discuss any school issue please contact your child's Pupil Support Teacher in the first instance:

- S1 Mrs. Perriss
- S2 Miss. Bell (Acting)
- S3 Mr. McAlpine/Mrs McNeill
- S4 Mrs. Carragher
- S5 Mrs. Harvey
- S6 Mrs. Henderson

I will continue to work closely with staff, our CHS Pupil Parliament, our Parent Council and North Lanarkshire Council (Education & Families) to continuously review our procedures and strategies.

I am delighted and incredibly excited to welcome back all of our young people – together, we will make this another successful and enjoyable school session for them. Thank you again for your patience, understanding, resilience and ongoing support.

I look forward to communicating further with you in due course.

Yours faithfully



Jonny Mitchell
Head Teacher