

Our Ref:  
Your Ref:  
Contact: JM  
Tel: 01236 794890  
E-mail: enquiries@chrystonhigh.n-lanark.sch.uk  
Date: 1<sup>st</sup> April 2021



Education and Families  
Mr. Mitchell  
Head Teacher  
Chryston High School  
Lindsaybeg Road  
Chryston  
G69 9DL  
[www.northlanarkshire.gov.uk](http://www.northlanarkshire.gov.uk)

Dear Parent/Carer,

As always, I hope this letter finds you, your family and your loved ones safe and well. First and foremost, thank you for all of your support, patience and understanding throughout what has proved to be a challenging term. I am very proud of the way in which our school community has dealt with the continuously changing contexts and we should all be justifiably proud of what we have all managed to achieve. As parents and families, your support has been inspiring for us throughout and it has also provided us with much of the energy required. Our young people (your children) have been absolutely first class in the way that they have responded to and overcome each challenge and I will be forever grateful to them and our school staff for how they have adapted and delivered such support for our young people.

In my most previous letter, I wrote that I was very much looking forward to a number of things as we embraced our blended learning model from the 15<sup>th</sup> March. Following on from that, I can tell you how wonderful it has been to have our young people back in school filling the corridors and classrooms full of laughter, chatter and positive learning again – I have very much missed that and I personally feel that I have found another spring in my step over the last few weeks. It has felt much more like Chryston High School again. In my most recent email, I mentioned that my personal opinion was that young people did indeed need to ‘catch up’ but only on the most important things – these being, connecting with their friends again, contributing successfully to their communities again and embracing the opportunities that being back in school provides. I am also very keen to reiterate that I think that due to COVID19 circumstances, our young people will actually be ahead of other generations in so many ways, including, being highly skilled in digital learning, being resilient and becoming successful independent life-long learners – skill-sets that are all so important in the world we will be living in for generations to come. I am very proud of each and every one of them.

### **Return to School – Monday 19<sup>th</sup> April**

I am anticipating that following further, upcoming Scottish Government announcements that all young people will return to school again on Monday 19<sup>th</sup> April at our normal time of 8.55am, following our Easter/Spring holidays. We are very much looking forward to welcoming all young people back to school for our final term of the school session. If there are any unexpected changes/amendments required between now and our return, I will of course be in contact with our school community. From the 19<sup>th</sup> April, all young people will follow their normal/original timetable, beginning with week A arrangements.

### **Staying Safe in Chryston High School**

From term 4 (Monday 19<sup>th</sup> April), there is no requirement for 2m distancing between pupils. Adults will still maintain a 2m distance between themselves and other adults, and themselves and pupils, where possible.

Similar to before Christmas, young people should enter and exit our building as follows:

- |         |                            |
|---------|----------------------------|
| 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 where necessary)

Staggered arrangements will be considered and arranged appropriately throughout the school day to support safe travel from one area of the school to another. We will return to our original week A/week B timetable as set out at the beginning of the session in August, beginning with week A from Monday 19<sup>th</sup> April.

Young people are asked to 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. Due to returning in the summer term, using outside space should be more comfortable due to improving weather conditions (fingers crossed) and therefore, it is likely that staff will encourage that to be the case as appropriate. Year group specific social areas/arrangements continue to be in place and used as necessary (including during inclement weather).

Furthermore, we will all continue to embrace our already established routines such as:

- Using hand sanitiser stations at entrances, exits, around the building and in each classroom
- Keeping left in corridors as we move through the school building
- Using anti-bacterial spray/wipes on workstations in each classroom (clean as you go)
- Extended blocks of learning to further reduce movement around the building (more frequent double periods)
- Physical distancing wherever practically possible in line with Scottish Government guidelines
- Attending in PE kit on days they have PE on their Timetable as changing facilities are currently unavailable
- We also thank our facilities staff (cleaning and janitorial) for their continued work in enhanced cleaning routines

The Scottish Government advice is that face coverings should be worn for:

- all adults and young people in secondary schools at all times except when eating and drinking
- adults, young people and children aged 5 and over are travelling on dedicated school transport

Parents and carers should also wear face coverings for pick up and drop off at school, even if this is outside the school perimeter.

We appreciate that some staff and children and young people will be unable to wear a face covering for good reasons and that position will continue to be respected.

Staff and pupils are strongly encouraged to:

- bring their own face coverings to school and ensure they don't share these with others;
- store these safely in a washable, sealable bag or container when not in use;
- wash reusable face coverings in hot water at the end of each day; and
- safely and hygienically dispose of disposable face coverings after use.

### **LFD Testing**

An additional measure to keep everyone safe is the roll out of LFD testing kits to S1-S3 pupils, thus meaning that they are now available for all young people. Attached to the email that you find this letter you will have access to a consent form and a further information sheet about data protection regarding LFD testing. We have been using this as a school for a

considerable period of time now and we are very positive about the impact that this approach is having and therefore we strongly encourage our young people to engage in regular testing as provided by the school. During the final week of the school holidays, our office team will be in to distribute kits on the following days at the following times:

**TUESDAY 13/4/21**

<b>9.00 - 10.00</b>	<b>1N1-1N3</b>
<b>10.15 - 11.15</b>	<b>1N4-1N6</b>
<b>11.30 - 12.30</b>	<b>2N1 -2N3</b>

**THURSDAY 15/4/21**

<b>9.00 - 10.00</b>	<b>2N4 – 2N6</b>
<b>10.15 – 11.15</b>	<b>S3 A – M</b>
<b>11.30 – 12.30</b>	<b>S3 N – Z</b>

If you would like to arrange to pick up LFD test kits from the school, S1 and S2 parents can come to the school office at the times above, dependant on the class your son/daughter is in. Parents of S3 pupils have time slots based on alphabetical order by child's surname. Where possible, parents/carers are asked to complete the consent form (emailed) in advance and bring that with them to school when collecting a test kit. Where this is not possible, office staff will provide you with one when you arrive. S1-S3 are all under 16 and therefore, consent and initial pick up must be arranged by parents/carers.

**Senior Phase 2021 Alternative Certification Model – May-June Assessment 2021**

With the cancellation of SQA exams this session, all senior phase learners are engaged in the Alternative Certification Model. Grades will be determined by class teachers based on evidence collated throughout the session. Throughout the session, teachers have been collating assessment information for young people in the senior phase and as you will already be aware, teachers have been advised by SQA to aim to have between 2-4 robust pieces of learning/assessment evidence for each young person. To help support this further, a senior phase (S4-S6), May-June assessments programme is arranged in CHS from Tuesday 4th May until Wednesday 9th June (inclusive). In accordance with feedback from young people, they will not be expected to sit more than one assessment a day and where possible, assessments will take place in classroom settings. In order to maximise the time for learning and consolidation of learning, there will be no study leave this session. Young people will continue to attend classes as normal according to their timetable. Full details will be issued on our return to school after the spring break once confirmation has been received from the First Minister of the full return of students. Parents views have also been discussed with representatives from our parent council/parent forum – I'd like to take this opportunity to thank them again for their time and very helpful contributions. Pupil views and parent views have been the key part of our planning.

In addition to providing each senior phase learner and family with a fully informative CHS guide to the Alternative Certification Model during w/b Monday 19<sup>th</sup> April, parents and young people will also receive booklets and information directly to their door from the SQA and as a school we will also plan for parent information (online) opportunities early in the new term. In order to further support the quality of support provided via our school guide, please use the bespoke email address below to forward any suggested frequently asked questions so that we can include them in the document appendices:

[CHS-SPAssessments2021FAQ@chrystonhigh.n-lanark.sch.uk](mailto:CHS-SPAssessments2021FAQ@chrystonhigh.n-lanark.sch.uk)

Although the May-June Assessment Programme will be confirmed and finalised and shared with all, week beginning Monday 19<sup>th</sup> April, it is highly likely that the dates for senior phase May-June assessments will be as follows. Hopefully this provides young people with the opportunity to begin planning. Naturally, we encourage all young people to give the very best account of themselves at all times, including during all assessment opportunities. Subject days/dates indicate National 5, Higher and Advanced Higher assessments.

Week Beginning:	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Monday 3 <sup>rd</sup> May		Graphics Practical Cookery (2 classes out 3)	Modern Studies	INSET DAY 5 Drama (Performance)	Music
Monday 10 <sup>th</sup> May	Maths (Not Applications of Maths)	Art PE Written Paper (Higher only)	Spanish Design & Man	Biology Human Biology	Business Mgt.
Monday 17 <sup>th</sup> May	History	Applications of Maths	Computing Practical Cookery (Remaining class)	Administration	English
Monday 24 <sup>th</sup> May	Accounting Drama (Written Paper) Practical Woodwork	Chemistry	RMPS	Physics	
Monday 31 <sup>st</sup> May		German	Geography	Politics Music Technology	Practical Cookery (All 3 classes) Written Paper
Monday 7 <sup>th</sup> June	ADDITIONAL INSET DAY 1	ADDITIONAL INSET DAY 2	PE Performance		

Further and more detailed information will be communicated via our guide at the beginning of next term.

### **NLC Digital (Online) Senior Phase Supported Study Opportunities/Spring Break Digital School**

This year the Digital School has coordinated a Spring Break Digital Supported Study Offer to further support young people in S4 – S6 who are undertaking National Qualifications.

These supported sessions will be in the form of subject specific master classes at National 5 and Higher level delivered by North Lanarkshire teaching staff. Timetabling of the classes can be viewed on the attached programme. All sessions will be delivered via Microsoft Teams and will last approximately 1 hour.

In order to attend any of the master classes you should follow the link below, where you'll be asked to sign in to this using your Glow username and password.

<https://bit.ly/SpringSupportedStudy2021>

Please select the supported study sessions you would like to attend and make sure you only select 1 session for each timeslot per day.

You will then be added to a Microsoft Team for each study session you sign up to, the study session will then take place on the appropriate team at the advertised time in the form of a Microsoft Teams meeting.

There may be events/circumstances which mean that a session is unable to run. Any cancellations or rescheduling will be communicated directly to you via your Glow email.

**All places must be booked by 1pm on Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> April.**

# DIGITAL SCHOOL

LEARN HERE

## Spring Break 2021

### Supported Study Timetable

	Tuesday 6 <sup>th</sup> April	Wednesday 7 <sup>th</sup> April	Thursday 8 <sup>th</sup> April	Friday 9 <sup>th</sup> April	Monday 12 <sup>th</sup> April	Tuesday 13 <sup>th</sup> April	Wednesday 14 <sup>th</sup> April	Thursday 15 <sup>th</sup> April	Friday 16 <sup>th</sup> April
<b>9-10am</b>	Higher Human Biology	Nat 5 Chemistry	Nat 5 Maths	Nat 5 Biology	Higher Physics (Our Dynamic Universe)	Higher Physics (Electricity)	Higher Health & Food Technology	Higher Maths	Higher Human Biology
		Higher Business	Higher Admin	Higher Chemistry	Nat 5 Geography	Nat 5 English	Higher Business	Higher Admin	
<b>10-11am</b>	Nat 5 Administration & IT	Higher Computing	Higher Mod Studs	Higher English	Higher English	Nat 5 Maths	Higher Geography	Higher Psychology (Topic 2)	Nat 5 Biology (Units 2 and 3)
	Nat 5 Maths	Nat 5 English		Nat 5 Mod Studs	Nat 5 Biology (Units 1 and 2)		Nat 5 Maths	Nat 5 Maths	Nat 5 Maths
<b>11-12pm</b>	Higher English	Nat 5 Chemistry (Unit 1)	Nat 5 Computing		Higher Psychology (Topic 1)	Higher Chemistry	Nat 5 Health & Food Technology		Nat 5 Physical Education
<b>1-2pm</b>	Nat 5 English	Nat 5 Business	Nat 5 English			Nat 5 Admin	Nat 5 Business	Higher English	
							Nat 5 Chemistry (Unit 2)		
<b>2-3pm</b>	Higher Chemistry	Nat 5 Mod Studs	Nat 5 Physical Education	Nat 5 Health & Food Technology	Nat 5 Chemistry		Higher Physical Education		

Please select the supported study sessions you would like to attend. Please make sure you only select 1 session for each timeslot.

There may be events/circumstances which mean that a session is unable to run. Any cancellations or rescheduling will be communicated directly to you via your Glow email.

### New Term Dates

The following highlights CHS key dates for our summer term:

- Monday 19<sup>th</sup> April            All pupils return for beginning of summer term, 8.55am
- Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> May                Holiday
- Monday 4<sup>th</sup> May                CHS Senior Phase May – June Assessment Programme Begins
- Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> May              INSET Day 5
- Friday 28<sup>th</sup> May                Holiday
- Monday 31<sup>st</sup> May                Holiday

Monday 7<sup>th</sup> June            Additional INSET Day 1  
 Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> June            Additional INSET Day 2  
 Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> June        Term/Session Ends, 1pm

**Revised Reporting/Tracking Dates (Summer Term)**

By Friday 14 <sup>th</sup> May	S4 Report S5/6 Tracking <b><i>All including Working Grades</i></b>
By Thursday 27 <sup>th</sup> May	S2 Tracking S3 Report
By Friday 18 <sup>th</sup> June	S1 Report

**Other News**

We wish Mr. McAlpine all the very best as he takes another step forward in what is proving to be a highly successful career as he leaves us to take up the post of Principal Teacher of Pupil Support at Bellshill Academy from the 19<sup>th</sup> April. Although we will all miss Mr. McAlpine hugely, we know that Bellshill will be very lucky to have him. I'd like to thank Mr. McAlpine personally and on behalf of the school community for his hard work, commitment and outstanding contributions to our young people and their families.

Miss Galgani will take up post as a PE Teacher in CHS from the 19<sup>th</sup> April – we wish her every success and offer her a very warm CHS welcome.

As many of you are already aware, I have been temporarily supporting the leadership of Chryston Primary School throughout this term and I have recently been asked to continue doing that until at least June 2021. I have very much enjoyed the role and I feel privileged to be working with and indeed learning from the Chryston Primary School community. With this in mind, I will be continuing to work between both schools throughout the next term. Thank you to those who have passed on very kind words of support and messages regarding that over the past weeks and months.

Finally, I have used a great number of analogies with staff, pupils and parents recently and one in which I will briefly highlight is the comparison of our school community to being mountaineers. I believe that we have worked incredibly hard to overcome many challenges throughout recent times, some may say that it has been like climbing mountains that we meet regularly along our current paths. I am very proud of how we have approached and indeed conquered these together, as a school community. Although we all hope that there is much more light at the end of what has been a very long tunnel, we will still have to climb another few mountains, including dealing with the Alternative Certification Model for senior phase learners due to the cancellation of SQA exams. I have every confidence that we will, again overcome that with success and we look forward to supporting our young people with their qualifications (as always). I thank you in advance for your ongoing trust, support, patience and understanding.

I know that you are proud to be parents/carers of our school. I fully realise that our young people are proud of their school and I have never been so sure that our staff are absolutely committed to our community. We will continue to work together in partnership to overcome any barriers/challenges to achieve the very best possible outcomes for our young people – together, WE ARE CHRYSTON HIGH SCHOOL.

I wish you and your families a safe, restful Easter/Spring holiday and I look forward to communicating with you again on our anticipated full return to school, from Monday 19<sup>th</sup> April.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mr. Mitchell", with a horizontal line extending from the end of the signature.

Mr. Mitchell