

Our Ref:  
Your Ref:  
Contact: JM  
Tel: 01236 794890  
Email: enquiries-at-chrystonhigh@northlan.org.uk  
Date: 13<sup>th</sup> August 2021



Education and Families  
Mr. Mitchell  
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. The staff team at Chryston High School have been working hard throughout the INSET days (and many other ones prior to that during the holidays) to make sure that we are all set to welcome all of our young people back to school on Monday 16<sup>th</sup> August at 8.55am. We are expecting our highest school roll to date (924), and we very much look forward to seeing everyone again and working together to ensure yet another successful session in 2021-22.

### **Return to School Arrangements**

With reference to Scottish Government guidance, we will return to school with much of the health and safety measures that were in place prior to the summer holidays, and we anticipate further updates in due course which we will of course, communicate with you as appropriate.

**Face coverings** (exemptions apply) are to continue to be worn by secondary school pupils and staff in all areas of the school, unless eating or drinking – staff will be here to help and there is further information in the letter attached from Derek Brown, Executive Director Education & Families, NLC.

### **Lateral Flow Testing (LFT)**

We are continuing to strongly encourage all staff and young people to take regular LFTs (twice per week) as a further safety measure. Kits can be collected from our school office. Uptake prior to the summer holidays was excellent and we encourage that to continue to be the case. Please record results as this helps public health experts understand levels of COVID-19 and informs their policy and next steps/guidance – testing has undoubtedly contributed majorly to successfully managing COVID-19 in CHS to date.

**Pupil Entrance points** are as follows:

S1 & S6	Main Entrance
S2 & S5	Home Economics Doors
S3 & S4	Humanities/Maths

**Year Group Social Spaces** are as follows:

S1 & S2	Social Area
S3 & S4	Games Hall
S5	Auchengeich Hall
S6	S6 Area & Café Viresco



We will of course continue to ensure **excellent hand hygiene** by using the many hand sanitiser stations around the school and upon entrance to individual classrooms and we will continue to support our additional FSS day cleaning staff by regular **wipe downs of desks and workstations**. We will no longer facilitate a week A/B timetable but will instead return to our more traditional approach.

**2021-22 Pupil Timetables** will be distributed to all young people at 8.55am on Monday 16<sup>th</sup> August and there will be arranged opportunities for any young person to discuss any queries with relevant senior members of staff which will be communicated as appropriate. For any senior pupils requiring a discussion regarding course options (potential re-coursing), appropriate arrangements to do so will also be communicated by relevant senior members of staff as coordinated by Mr. Kane, DHT School Timetable.

### ***Day 1 Arrangements and Introduction of Personal Support & Registration (PSR)***

Following a series of consultation events, our school community decided that our young people will begin each day with 10 minutes of Personal Support & Registration (PSR). Each young person has been provided with information via their year group Microsoft Team and has been allocated a PSR class which they are to report to when the bell rings at 8.55am on Monday 16<sup>th</sup> August. Our rationale for this health and well-being strategy is that PSR will further contribute to establishing supportive relationships between staff, young people and peer groups and all young people will have daily contact with one member of staff who will work with them throughout their time in CHS. We firmly believe that this will further embed even stronger relationships and community which are key aspects of well-being. Staff will be on hand to help young people first thing on Monday morning if they need a reminder of where to be. Specific communications for young people will be posted on their year group Microsoft Team by Friday 13<sup>th</sup> August. S1s will have received specific communications also from (Mrs. Mullen DHT, S1) by Friday 13<sup>th</sup> August about their day 1 arrangements and we particularly look forward to welcoming them to their new school on Monday.

### **32 Period Week**

As communicated previously, all NLC schools will begin a 32-period week from Monday 16<sup>th</sup> August. Timings are as follows:

Monday – Thursday            8.55am – 3.45pm

Friday                            8.55am - 12.30pm

NLC has arranged all transport accordingly and we look forward to communicating to all young people and families what will be on offer during ‘Future Fridays’ as we are anticipating a wide range of activities and opportunities to be available in due course at Chryston High School on Friday afternoons in the very near future. We are continuing to work with local partners regarding our programme and offers which we will communicate soon. We are also intending to appoint an Acting Principal Teacher soon to coordinate our ‘Future Fridays’ programme.

### **SQA**

All young people in the senior phase (S4-S6) received their SQA results (10<sup>th</sup> August). We are delighted to share that whole school attainment and achievement has again been very positive this session and we are also aware that some may not have achieved exactly as they had hoped for – if this is the case, please refer to previous guidance communicated and refer to the SQA website for any further support if required. Please also arrange to discuss with relevant PT Pupil Support in the first instance (whether still at Chryston High School or recently left us – we are here to help). We are incredibly proud of how well all of our young people dealt with the challenges around SQA ACM last session. Some highlights from our very positive whole school measures include:

Over 28% of young people achieved 5 Higher (A-C) passes by the end of S5

Over 50% of our young people achieved at least 5 National 5 passes by the end of S4

As always, in depth analysis will continue and will inform our school improvement plan for the forthcoming session.

### **School Uniform & PE Kit (Temporary Arrangements)**

It is a privilege to be a part of a community that takes such great pride in its strong ambitious culture, traditions and heritage and we are always complimented on the conduct and dress of our young people whether they are in school or out representing CHS at external events. This has been more challenging due to changing room restrictions which will continue for the first part of the new school session. However, we will be planning for a strong and rigorous uniform return to celebrate the pride we have in our school team from August 16<sup>th</sup>. For this, I would like to thank all parents, carers and families for supporting our school identity, particularly our uniform and standard of dress. In regard to our school aims (improving learning and building capacity) and our school values (integrity, compassion, ambition, respect and equity) I would ask for your support in ensuring the continuation of our excellent standard of school uniform consisting of the following:

- Chryston High School blazer (worn at all times in transition around the building/school grounds)
- Black formal school shoes
- Black formal school trousers or shorts, (denim material not part of the school uniform policy), black skirt (or if S6, Chryston HS Tartan skirt, available from our uniform provider)
- White formal school shirt/blouse
- Chryston High School Tie (appropriate to year group)
- Black or dark coloured jacket during winter months/inclement weather

On days when young people have PE on their timetable, they should attend school wearing appropriate and sensible CHS PE kit as changing rooms will not be in use until further notice. PSR teachers each morning will support and remind young people of which days they can wear PE kit to school during the initial stages of the session. We are hopeful that changing room use will be re-introduced at the earliest opportunity. Thank you in advance for your support in encouraging full school uniform is worn and/or appropriate CHS PE kit.

### **2021-22 School Calendar**

Prior to the holidays I attached a copy of our 2021-22 Family Calendar (version 1) – this can now also be found on our school website. This highlights important dates for your diary and will assist with your planning throughout the session. We are hopeful that as COVID-19 restrictions ease, our calendar will be accurate, however we will of course continue to communicate any amendments as/when necessary.

### **New Colleagues & Friends**

On Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> August, we welcomed the following new colleagues and friends into our school community. Best wishes to Mr. Simpson (English), Miss. McKay (ICT/Business), Miss. Thompson (PE), Miss. McCloskey (Art), Mrs Kenyon (Geography & Modern Studies). Each of them is fully aware of the privileged position they are in, working with you, your children and our staff team on a daily basis.

### **Updated Contact Details**

You will notice at the top of this letter our new and updated general enquiries email address:

[enquiries-at-chrystonhigh@northlan.org.uk](mailto:enquiries-at-chrystonhigh@northlan.org.uk)

All schools in NLC have moved from the FirstClass system to Glow and therefore the above email address is now active with the previous one now not in use.

Finally, we know, with your valued and appreciated continuous and ongoing support that our young people will return to school ready to be a true credit to themselves, their school and their families. We know that they will be ready to embrace and be shining examples of our core values each day. We know that they will conduct themselves with **Integrity, Compassion, Ambition, Respect and Equity (I C A R E)**. We know that they care about their school community, our staff care about their school community and our families care about their school community too. By working together, I look forward to our school and our young people achieving great success in the 2021-22 school session.

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

Best wishes,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'M. Mitchell', with a horizontal line extending from the end of the signature.

Mr. Mitchell