

Dear Parent and Carers,

We hope you and your families are safe and well and are getting used to our new way of learning. We know this is a challenging situation for everyone and we appreciate everything you do to support your children as they attend their online lessons. We want to stay connected with all of our families and would appreciate knowing how you are coping and if you feel you need any additional support. If you could find the time to complete this [Parent Survey](#) by Friday 22nd January we would be very grateful.

Contacting School

If you have a general enquiry you can email admin@clrchs.co.uk or phone the main switchboard on 0161 643 4009 and we will get back to you as soon as possible. Public Health require schools to report on positive Covid-19 cases as well as close contacts of positive cases who have been asked to self-isolate. Please telephone school if you need to report either of these situations.

Remote Learning

Teachers have been delighted with the transition to remote learning by all of our pupils. Attendance and engagement in lessons has been excellent and long may this continue! As we spend longer in this way of working, we will adjust to ensure the very best experience for our children. We recognise that live lessons and daily interaction with teachers is key to learning but also that five hours per day facing a screen is not ideal. In Key Stage 3, we will introduce more variety where the curriculum will be delivered through a mixture of live lessons, flip learning (research tasks etc), recorded lessons and set tasks. This will enable students to experience the curriculum in a much more realistic way when compared to classroom learning. We will still require the pupils to log on to every lesson and be registered. In Key Stage 4 and 5, we will continue with live lessons for all and review this in two weeks.

GCSE & A-level Grades

We are awaiting more detailed guidance on how GCSE and A-level grades will be calculated this year and will be in touch regarding any developments as they happen.

Free School Meals

You are probably aware that the national free school meal voucher scheme is to be reinstated. We hope to be able to offer vouchers for the final three weeks of this half-term from the week beginning 25th January 2021. The vouchers will be to the value of £15 per eligible student per week and we expect that they will be delivered for the three-week period in one code to minimise the number of times families need to access the Voucher Site to convert codes to vouchers.

For next week, we will continue to offer food packages. If your child is currently in receipt of free school meals please contact school using admin@clrchs.co.uk by Tuesday 19th January if you would like to collect a weekly food parcel on Thursday 21st January.

If you are not currently in receipt of free school meals but believe you are entitled, or have recently applied for a qualifying benefit, then please complete the application form at <http://www.rochdale.gov.uk/schools-and-education/Pages/free-school-meals.aspx> so that we can ensure you receive your weekly food parcel.

Safeguarding

If you have any concerns of a safeguarding nature please contact us using the email Safeguarding@clrchs.co.uk We have attached a Directory of Services for you to make contact, if need be, with agencies such as #thrive. This email account is monitored daily by members of our Safeguarding Team. If you have any serious concerns, you should inform the EHASH team at the Local Authority on 0300 303 0440 or ehash@rochdale.gov.uk and, if you are in any doubt, please telephone the police.

There is no indication yet when we will be able to open school fully, but rest assured that we are continue doing our utmost to keep students learning and the school connected. We miss having everyone in school, but must continue to follow the Government guidance to keep everyone in our community safe.

Thank you all for your continued support.

Mrs Williams