

Cheney School

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Community Schools
Alliance Trust

*Improving Every Learner's
Life Chances*

Head
Rupert Moreton, BA, MA, M.Ed

Think for yourself, act for others

Rupert Moreton, Head of School

15 May 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

Firstly, we hope that you and your family are healthy and managing during these unprecedented times.

Cheney has been open since the lockdown and remains open for vulnerable students and students of Key Workers. Cheney will also be open for these students over the half-term period 25 to 29 of May.

We have, over the last few weeks, been working hard planning for a wider reopening of the school. This planning is with our leadership teams and site teams to establish how we can keep our students and staff as safe as possible.

This week the government has introduced more guidance about the reopening of schools which can be found here:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/closure-of-educational-settings-information-for-parents-and-carers/reopening-schools-and-other-educational-settings-from-1-june>

We are planning, therefore, to be able to open more widely from the 1 June for Year 10 and Year 12 students for some face-to-face support. The precise details of the students, the days, the timings etc. have yet to be finalised. We will, of course, keep you updated and informed, and communicate our plans that will enable us to take sensible measures and minimise risk.

Additional government guidance can be found here:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-implementing-protective-measures-in-education-and-childcare-settings/coronavirus-covid-19-implementing-protective-measures-in-education-and-childcare-settings>

Learning from home

Thank you to all our parents and carers for supporting our students' learning during school closure. We are issuing an online timetable and overview of teaching and learning in a letter for all parents each week and are seeing good and improving levels of engagement with our online learning. Please

continue to encourage your children to try their best and thank you for your patience as we all learn to manage in these unusual times.

Thank you to our parents and carers!

Thank you to all members of our parent community who were so generous in their donations of food and treats for our staff. These are being shared with staff working in school and non-perishable items saved for when we begin to return in larger numbers. Your thanks were much appreciated by everyone.

Questions and Queries

During this time, we are aware that parents, carers and students may need to contact staff regarding questions and queries. Could we please remind you of the following contacts details for these questions and queries:

For immediate safeguarding or wellbeing concerns: EXT.Safeguarding@cheney.oxon.sch.uk or 07365273633

(This mobile is designed for External Agencies to contact school for immediate concerns)

For Free School Meals queries:

CHS-FSM@cheney.oxon.sch.uk

For Home Learning:

Year 7	Tom Haines and Becky Robson	thn@cheney.oxon.sch.uk rro@cheney.oxon.sch.uk
Year 8	Lee Fieldwick and Andrew Olubodun	lfi@cheney.oxon.sch.uk aol@cheney.oxon.sch.uk
Year 9	Ann Blair and Manjula Pillay-Sayers	abl@cheney.oxon.sch.uk mpps@cheney.oxon.sch.uk
Year 10	Pauline O'Donnell and Andy Ransome	pod@cheney.oxon.sch.uk ara@cheney.oxon.sch.uk
Year 11	Rachel Clear and Tom Stacey	rcl@cheney.oxon.sch.uk tst@cheney.oxon.sch.uk
Years 12 and 13	Sarah Warbrick and Kate Hackett	swr@cheney.oxon.sch.uk kh@cheney.oxon.sch.uk
SEND, Cheney Plus and Alternative Provision	Richard Coombs, Susie Lopez, Justin Heenan, Mark Blencowe	rco@cheney.oxon.sch.uk slo@cheney.oxon.sch.uk jhe@cheney.oxon.sch.uk mbn@cheney.oxon.sch.uk

Mental Health Support

A reminder that parents, carers and young people can call the CAMHS SPA team directly on 01865 902515, Monday to Friday 8-6pm. If you have concerns that there has been a deterioration in a young person's mental health outside of these hours – please contact their out of hours GP or 111 for advice. See the CAMHS website for more details: <https://www.oxfordhealth.nhs.uk/camhs/oxon/>

Advice for supporting young people with worries relating to COVID-19 can be found on the school website:

https://www.cheney.oxon.sch.uk/wp-content/uploads/2020/04/COVID19_advice-for-parents-and-carers_20.3_V31.pdf

Oxfordshire Mind have also just launched the [Oxfordshire Mind Guide](https://www.oxmindguide.org.uk/), an online directory of mental health support and services across Oxfordshire which offer treatment, care and others (such as housing) for people with mental health issues and for their families or carers: <https://www.oxmindguide.org.uk/>

Access to School Health Nurse

Students still have access to the School Nursing service and everything that it offers. Any student who would like a confidential appointment via phone, video chat or a walk and talk, can email or text Caroline Smith at carolinee.smith@oxfordhealth.nhs.uk / 07717661485.

Library News From Mrs Fenton

Borrowing books from the library

Starting from Monday, students will be able to reserve library books online via the new portal on RM Unify which shows which books are available to borrow. I've put together a [short film giving instructions on how the system will work](#) and I am always available by email to advise on book choice or to help in any way.

On receipt of an email advising that the book is available, students will be able to pick up their book from the school reception on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays between 10am and 1pm. There will also be a returns box in reception and to ensure proper hygiene, there will be a 48 hour lag between books being returned and being available to be borrowed again.

There are already new books on the shelves and look out on the portal for further recommendations of what's new in the library over the next few weeks.

Win National Book Tokens for the library

[National Book Tokens](https://www.nationalbooktokens.com/schools) are giving schools a chance to win ££££s worth of National Book Tokens for their libraries. With your support, we could win £5,000 of National Book Tokens for our wonderful library, ready to spend when school reopens. Teachers, school staff and parents can all enter – the more nominations Cheney receives, the higher our chances of winning. Find out more: <https://www.nationalbooktokens.com/schools>

Sixth Form Applications

The Sixth Form team are looking forward to welcoming Year 11 into the Sixth Form. We hope students are starting to feel reassured about the next stage in their education. There has been a really good response to the offer letters sent out. **It is really important for applicants to respond through the link in their emails to confirm their places and to keep checking their school email every day.** We have had a surprisingly high number of requests for phone calls so please be patient with us: we are working steadily through the calls.

Students who have accepted offers will soon be asked to register for the 'Ready for Sixth Form' programme which will start during the week beginning 1 June.

Kind Regards

Rupert Moreton, Head of School