



September 2020

Dear Parent/Guardian

It has been wonderful to see the return of students back at Oldbury Wells School over the last week with students re-engaging with their teachers, friends and in their studies.

I am writing to you today to update and reassure you with our plans in the eventuality of any future distance learning offer. As per the Department for Education guidance, the school's distance learning program will reflect any local or national picture. As a result we will operate on a tiered approach.

Tier 1

This is the position we are in at present where all students are expected in school. As a result of this pupils are in school so therefore distance learning would not apply. In this situation work would only be offered to students who are self-isolating due to the official guidance. This includes:

- Pupil told to self-isolate for official reasons as part of Track & Trace or as part of a household
- Pupil tested positive
- Pupil has returned from a non-term time Holiday and has been required to quarantine as part of government guidance.

If you meet any of these criteria, please inform the school via the absence line immediately. In this instance your child should access the generic work through the national academy <https://classroom.thenational.academy> complete any homework tasks set in Satchel One and re-visit any prior learning. From the time of booking a test we will endeavor to issue subject specific work set by the students teachers in line with their timetabled lessons within three working days.

Tier 2

If infections rise, we may well be instructed to move to a rota model, combining on-site provision with remote education. For example, year groups would be in for a two-week block and then do two weeks distance learning. We would continue to allow full-time attendance on site to vulnerable children and young people and the children of critical workers. The students who are in school would receive normal lessons and students who are out of school will follow their normal timetable. Work will be set through Satchel One (Show my Homework) and teachers will offer a live element through Microsoft Teams.

Tier 3

If infections continue to rise further, we will be instructed to allow full-time on-site provision only to vulnerable children, the children of critical workers and selected year groups (to be identified by Department for Education). In this case distance learning will be provided for all other pupils as per their timetable. Pupils who are classed as vulnerable or fall into the critical worker category will access distance learning work in school and be supported by a member of staff during the day. Students who are not on school site will follow their normal timetable and work will be set through Satchel One (Show my Homework) and teachers will offer a live element through Microsoft Teams.

Tier 4

In the event of a larger lockdown the school will only allow full-time attendance to our priority groups - vulnerable children and the children of critical workers. All other pupils should not attend on site. Pupils who are classed as vulnerable or fall into the critical worker category will access distance learning work in school and be supported by a member of staff during the day. Students who are not on school site will follow their normal timetable and work will be set through Satchel One (Show my Homework) and teachers will offer a live element through Microsoft Teams.

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Schools' Partnership

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As a school we have evaluated our last experience with distance learning and we are well prepared in the event of any possible move to this approach again. As a school we are committed to ensuring that pupils' education continues. Full support resources on installing the applications such as Satchel One (Show my Homework) and Microsoft Teams can be found on the website at:

<http://www.oldburywells.com/parent-information/learning-zone-online-safety>

If you do experience any issues with these please contact the school and we will do our best to resolve these.

As part of our plans we would like to undertake a survey of IT equipment that students have access to at home so that we can identify any possible solutions. The survey is confidential and will help us assign any IT equipment from the Government, but also identify students who need further training in the applications we use. Please use the link below to access the survey:

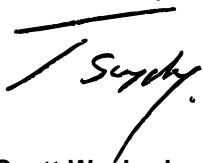
<https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=2s8TOK9SpUy44yMVeXcKuuHCRyLhm-IHtahOAuoWIntUMFcwSjdGOVoyTU9XNDNDWk85WTIHmKJXRi4u>

I am also pleased to announce that to support students further we have an opportunity to participate in a laptop purchase scheme. Information on this scheme can be found at:

<http://www.oldburywells.com/parent-information/chromebook-programme>

We are confident that our distance learning programme will meet the needs of the students, allowing them to continue to make progress within any restrictions given in the local or national context.

Kind Regards
Yours faithfully



Scott Wycherley
Deputy Headteacher

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