



Date: Sunday 11th July 2021

Re : Move to Virtual Lessons for Years 10 &12 only.

Dear Parents / Guardian

Unfortunately, we have received further information from some parents and from staff to inform us of both new COVID positive cases and further staff isolations. I am therefore writing to inform you that due to operation capacity, from Monday 12th July through to the end of term we will be closing school for Years 10 and 12 only.

Years 10 and 12 will have online lessons as outlined below. All other year groups should attend school under normal arrangements with exception of those students whose families have been contacted individually to request their child to self-isolate.

We are aware that this news will be disappointing for those students who will now not be in school to celebrate the end of the school year. Throughout the year all students have shown tremendous resilience and commitment during the most challenging times; we are proud of each individual and grateful for the continued support families have shown.

Our priority is always to ensure the health and welfare of all our students and staff, this is at the forefront of our thinking with this decision ensuring the very best support for all those in our community.

Due to the timing of this communication, on Monday students in Year 10&12 should focus on any outstanding homework tasks or access work via the Oak National Academy: <https://www.thenational.academy/>

From Tuesday 13th July, students will be set work through distance learning and are expected to access work via Satchel One. Lessons will be delivered in line with their normal school timetable with a live element via TEAM's where possible. All students are expected to follow their normal school timetable; those in Year 10 are required to work from home during school hours.

The school remains open for all other students who should continue to attend as normal if they remain well. Our current COVID secure practices are in line with all requirements, and we continue to work hard to ensure that our school community remains safe for all students and staff.

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Schools' Partnership

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Students arriving in school should as always arrive with a face mask and are encouraged to wear this while within the school building where social distancing may be difficult to maintain. We are aware that in Telford and Wrekin the use of face coverings has become mandatory in schools until the end of term for all students; we will be taking further advice from the Public Health team tomorrow to see if any further action should be taken at this stage; students should be prepared for this type of decision to be made.

We will be writing to all parents before the end of term outlining arrangements for our return to school in September. We should all look to the future with optimism while ensuring that we all take personal responsibility for keeping those around us safe; thank you as always for your support and understanding.

Yours sincerely

Lee Tristham
Headteacher

A further reminder of COVID regulations.

What to do if your child develops symptoms of COVID 19

If your child develops symptoms of COVID-19, they must not come to school and should remain at home for at least **10 days** from the date when their symptoms appeared. Anyone with symptoms will be eligible for a PCR test (the normally available test type) and this can be arranged via <https://www.nhs.uk/ask-for-a-coronavirus-test> or by calling 119.

All other household members who remain well, must stay at home and not leave the house for 10 days. This includes anyone in your 'Support Bubble'.

Further information is available at: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-stay-at-home-guidance/stay-at-home-guidance-for-households-with-possible-coronavirus-covid-19-infection>

The household isolation period includes the day the first person in your household's symptoms started (or the day their test was taken if they did not have symptoms) and the next 10 full days. This means that if, for example, your 10 day isolation period starts on the 15th of the month, your isolation period ends at 23:59 hrs on the 25th and you can return to your normal routine.

Household members should not go to work, school or public areas and exercise should be taken within the home.

If you require help with buying groceries, other shopping or picking up medication, or walking a dog, you should ask friends or family. Alternatively, you can order your shopping online and medication by phone or online.

Household members staying at home for 10 days will greatly reduce the overall amount of infection the household could pass on to others in the community

If you are able, move any vulnerable individuals (such as the elderly and those with underlying health conditions) out of your home, to stay with friends or family for the duration of the home isolation period.

Symptoms

The most common symptoms of coronavirus (COVID-19) are recent onset of:

- a new continuous cough
- a high temperature
- a loss of, or change in, your normal sense of taste or smell (anosmia)

For most people, coronavirus (COVID-19) will be a mild illness.

If your child does develop symptoms, you can seek advice from the nhs.uk website at <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/check-if-you-have-coronavirus-symptoms/>. If you are concerned about your child's symptoms, or they are worsening you can seek advice from NHS 111 at <https://111.nhs.uk/> or by phoning 111.

How to stop COVID-19 spreading

There are things you can do to help reduce the risk of you and anyone you live with getting ill with COVID-19

Do

- wash your hands with soap and water often – do this for at least 20 seconds
- use hand sanitiser gel if soap and water are not available
- wash your hands as soon as you get home
- cover your mouth and nose with a tissue or your sleeve (not your hands) when you cough or sneeze
- put used tissues in the bin immediately and wash your hands afterwards

Further Information

Further information is available at <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/>

A reminder that we have set up an e-mail for families to use should there be any key questions or confirmed cases of children who attend the school (covid.support@oldburywells.com). Please leave your contact details and the name of your child within any communication. In addition, further information is available on the school website (<http://www.oldburywells.com/parent-information/covid-update>)