



**Our Ref:** LTM/kmd/HomeLD

7 May 2021

Dear Parent/Guardian

**Re: Updates and Information on Home Learning Day (Monday 7th June)**

Can I thank all parents and students for their continued support and positive response in relation to actions taken by the school as we continue to navigate through what has been a very challenging year. The resilience shown by students and staff in school has been evident throughout, with the supportive comments received into school extremely welcomed.

At this time we are working hard to respond to government guidance with the next scheduled updates into school to be communicated following the national updates on 17th May and again on 21st June. Our intention is to look to re-set and re-establish many elements of the school offer as possible as we plan towards a new academic year from September.

Prior to this, our understandable priority is for those students who complete qualifications with us this year, this includes students in years 10, 11 and 13. You may be aware that this year schools are required to allocate 'Teacher Assessed Grades' (TAGs) rather than students be required to complete formal examinations. The TAGs will culminate from a wide range of holistic evidence which schools are expected gather, ensuring that appropriate moderation and standardisation occurs so that results are fair for all concerned. Under normal times, this checking, moderation and allocation of grades would be managed by the exam boards, but this year the process is required to be completed by schools and involves approximately 1900 individual checks and entries.

Students have worked incredibly hard, and even at this stage are involved with regular in-class assessments within lessons rather than under full examination conditions in the main exam's hall; we aim to ensure that we are able to accurately capture the progress of all our students ensuring they receive their best grade possible and enabling future pathways to be successfully accessed.

For these reasons, it has become necessary for staff to have dedicated uninterrupted time to allow them to meet together to complete the extensive range of requirements to effectively allocate the final TAGs for students. We are therefore allocating a 'Home Learning Day' on Monday, 7th June, where students across all years will be asked to work from home, accessing work set via Satchel One and using the same systems which were in place during Distance Learning. There will be no 'live' input on the day, although all requirements will be clearly outlined on Satchel One with a full day's work allocated.

If the home learning day causes insurmountable childcare issues that you would like to discuss please contact the school ([grace.docker@oldburywells.com](mailto:grace.docker@oldburywells.com)) by Friday, 14th May.

I very much hope that the context of the information provided enables you to understand and support the action taken to safeguard all students progress, we know that all children have had an extremely disrupted year, however, for those parents who have children in the current examination year groups, you will know how important it is that we get this process right for your children.

Thank you in anticipation of your support, we look forward to working with you as we continue to move into a period of further normality and return to our regular ways of working.

Yours faithfully

**Lee Tristham**  
Headteacher

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