



**Our Ref:** LTM/kmd/picnic

12th July 2021

Dear Parent/Guardian

**Re: Year 6 Transition Update – Transition Picnics Cancelled**

I am writing to inform you that due to operational issues, Oldbury Wells School has introduced distance learning for Year 10 & 12 students until the end of the summer term. These students will access work from home during this time while all other year groups are attending school under normal arrangements.

This decision follows confirmation of several positive COVID 19 cases within school which has resulted in some students being asked to self-isolate and work from home due to being close contacts. In addition, we have had a significant increase in the numbers of staff having to self-isolate following notification through Track & Trace or because of having to support children at home who are isolating, having been sent home from their individual school settings.

**Due to these issues, we have made the difficult decision to cancel our scheduled evening transition picnics which were due to take place this week.** Although we are extremely confident that the arrangements in place are COVID secure, we want to remove any concern from parents and ensure that you are able to end the term without any issues as we move into the summer holiday; our students' welfare is always at the forefront of our thinking.

I am sure you will share our disappointment, but we would like to reassure you that our planning for September will provide the very best start for your child with us; I know they will be excited to arrive and meet many of their new friends, alongside the team, here in school.

We are looking forward to welcoming those students who are joining us for Summer School and we will have a comprehensive program of activities for the start of the new academic year. With this in mind, all schools are being asked to stagger the start of the new academic year to allow appropriate COVID testing of all students. This will mean that there will be a number of days following the Year 7s' start date on Tuesday, 7<sup>th</sup> September where the school will not be full to capacity, giving plenty of time for all students to settle in. We will be making contact over the Summer to outline further detail, however, should you have any questions at this stage please do not hesitate to contact the school.

Can I use this opportunity to wish you a relaxing summer period and we very much look forward to welcoming all students and families during the months ahead.

Yours sincerely

**Lee Tristham**  
Headteacher

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