



## **Broadband**

The Vale of Glamorgan council has asked us to share the information below with parents/ carers

**BT have announced that the launch of a new broadband tariff - [BT Home Essentials](#) - will take place in June this year.**

BT Home Essentials is a separate and improved social tariff compared to BT's initial version, BT Basic, which was launched in 2008. Home Essentials provides an average of 36 Mbps download speeds and 700 minutes of calls for £15 a month, around half the price of a standard BT fibre and calls package. Alternatively, eligible customers can also opt for average speeds of 67 Mbps and unlimited calls for £20 per month.

Please note, this is a BT managed scheme, any applications to join the scheme (once open), or general queries will need to be directed to BT.

## **INSET days**

As communicated to you last week our INSET days for this summer term are on June 11, July 19 and July 20 2021. School will be closed to pupils on these days for staff training.

## **Qualifications 2021 - Centre Determined Grades (CDG)**

Students in Years 10 (GCSE English literature only) 11,12 and 13 are continuing to work through various assessment tasks in order to produce evidence to allow Centre Determined Grades to be awarded.

In the timeline of CDG activities sent to you previously, we advised that the teaching, learning and assessment window would run up to and including Wednesday 26 May 2021. At this time all assessment activities will have been completed. Therefore, Years 11 and 13 will not be required to attend school after this date. Year 12 students will not be required to attend school from this date until 21 June 2021 when they will return to resume their AS/ A level studies.

These arrangements are necessary as this year formal external examinations have been cancelled. Therefore, teachers are acting as: assessment designers; assessors; examiners; invigilators; markers; standardisers; moderators; quality assurers and grade awarders. These are all tasks that would normally be carried out by the exam boards. As such teachers will need to complete all of these activities before provisional grades are released to students in most subjects on 16 June 2021.

To put this in context in a "normal" year student would cease to attend regular lessons and embark on their external examinations as outlined below.

Year 11 - end of the first week of May.

Year 12 and 13 end of the second week of May.

Year 12 students would resume lessons in the first or second week of June.

We informed you last week that WJEC and Qualifications Wales have decided to delay the publication of final details regarding any review and appeals process relating to CDGs. As soon as we receive this information, we will share the details with you.

## **COVID - 19 lateral flow tests**

Please see below a reminder of the information sent out earlier this week to Year 7 - 9 parents/ carers.

Following updated guidance from WG we can now confirm that the distribution of Lateral Flow Device tests (to be conducted at home) has been extended to pupils in Years 7 - 9, in addition to pupils in Years 10-13.

The details for the tests can be found [here](#) .

A video of how to do them at home can be found [here](#) .

Pupils will be given a pack (full instructions are also included) **during registration, as per below:**

**Years 7 & 8: Thursday 6 May**

**Year 9: Friday 7 May**

Instructions for the collection of tests after this period will be sent via parentmail, but in the meantime, if you have any enquiries regarding the above arrangements, please contact the relevant achievement office:

**Year 7: Mrs Bedford**

email: [year7@cowbridgecs.co.uk](mailto:year7@cowbridgecs.co.uk), tel: 01446 776705

**Year 8 & 9: Mr D'Arcy**

email: [year8@cowbridgecs.co.uk](mailto:year8@cowbridgecs.co.uk), tel: 01446 776711

email: [year9@cowbridgecs.co.uk](mailto:year9@cowbridgecs.co.uk), tel: 01446 776711

**IMPORTANT INFORMATION:**

**Participation is voluntary and** in line with the Welsh Government advice and guidance. **The School will not require any written permission from pupils or parents as the tests are conducted at home and no testing will take place on school premises. Pupils must only perform tests from home and take action in accordance with the information.**

**Any pupil with symptoms of Covid-19 or a positive Lateral Flow test must stay away from school and seek a full PCR test as soon as possible.**

**Pupils who have a negative PCR test can return, after confirming that the test result is negative, via the relevant achievement office.**