



**Our Ref:** LTM/kmd/KS3currichange

15 September 2021

Dear Parent/Carer,

**Re: Changes to Length of Key Stage 3 & GCSE Curriculum**

Following a review of the school's curriculum I am writing to inform you that following much discussion and approval from Governors we have decided to move from a two-year Key Stage 3 to a three-year Key Stage 3. This means that students who are currently in Year 8, and those students who have recently joined us in Year 7, will now pick their final GCSE options in Year 9 and not in Year 8 as they have done previously. There is no impact on the curriculum of other year groups.

This has been a difficult decision to undertake as we have had much success with a three-year GCSE, but the educational landscape we find ourselves in currently has prompted us to consider the best possible way forward for all our students.

As a school we monitor and review our curriculum each year to ensure that we offer an engaging, broad and challenging curriculum to all our pupils. Due to the excellent planning and attention to detail from the school subject leads we do not expect this to have an impact on future outcomes. By studying Key Stage 3 for longer it will allow teachers to deliver foundational knowledge that will be built on at GCSE level and more importantly allow them to have a wider experience of subjects before making option choices.

We shall be letting pupils know through form time over the next few weeks so that they fully understand how this decision will impact on them. In the meantime, if you have any questions regarding this change please get in touch with the school and we will be happy to support any queries you may have.

Yours sincerely

**Mr L Tristham**  
Headteacher

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CEO: Mrs Sarah Godden  
T: 01746 760509  
c/o: Oldbury Wells School

**Headteacher: Mr Lee Tristham**  
Oldbury Wells, Bridgnorth  
Shropshire, WV16 5JD

01746 765454  
school@oldburywells.com

