

**Our Ref:** CXS/kmd/Y7toptips

2 September 2024



Dear Year 7 Students, Parents & Carers

As the new academic year draws closer, I would like to extend a warm welcome to all new students who will be joining us at Oldbury Wells this week.

Over the summer we have been preparing to welcome you into the school and your new tutor groups, but I would like to give you some information and reminders that may help you to ease into your first days at secondary school.

Tip 1 Equipment – you **will** be having formal lessons on Wednesday, but this will also be a day of activities, getting to know your environment and building on the excellent hard work you showed on your taster days in July. You will need to bring your normal school day equipment (this can be found in your Student Guide).

Tip 2 PE kit – you **WILL NOT** need to bring a PE kit for your first day. Please leave this at home.

Tip 3 Lunches – we are aware that your ParentPay account may not yet be activated, **do not worry!** If you are using the canteen for food you will be able to do so, the credit will just be deducted from your account when it is activated. You can also bring in a packed lunch and snacks / drinks for consumption at break and lunch time. Please note our caterers, Caterlink, are kindly providing a free breakfast service at morning break for all our new Year 7 starters on the first day.

Tip 4 Bring your Student Guide with you – staff will be referring to this, so keep it in your blazer pocket. If you do not have one, please let your form tutor know on Wednesday.

Tip 5 Mobile Phones – a reminder that it is completely fine to bring a mobile phone with you to school, however it must be **switched off and in your bag** as soon as you are on school site.

Tip 6 Take a Deep Breath – we know this time can be nervy. You already made an excellent start in July; we are here to support and guide you through your transition to Oldbury Wells.

Tip 7 When you arrive – if you are walking / being dropped off, come in through the **West reception door**; if you are arriving on a bus, you will be met with a smile by Mr LaCroix on the coach park, you will then be guided to the West reception area. On entry you will be shown to your tutor group.

Tip 8 Allow time in the morning for the 'first day of school – 'outside the front door' photo – these are memory makers!

Tip 9 Ensure you are prepared to - **Be Kind, Aim High, Work Hard.**

Tip 10 Enjoy the day – make the most of all the opportunities that will come your way!

We are looking forward to seeing you on Wednesday morning but if you have any questions in the meantime please do not hesitate to email [chris.smith2@oldburywells.com](mailto:chris.smith2@oldburywells.com)

Yours faithfully

**Mr Chris Smith**  
Transition Lead / Head of Year 7

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