



Dear Parents and Carers,

I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate Year 11 with the way they have settled into their return to school since a very busy final few weeks before the Christmas break. It is clear that the majority of our learners are approaching their studies with determination and high levels of effort and are ready to begin tackling the upcoming Summer examinations.

It may make surprising reading, but Year 11 have less than 70 schools days left with us before their final exams begin so it is crucial that every day counts from here. Just as we did at the start of the year, we want to ensure that every opportunity is maximised to support students to achieve their goals and to secure positive outcomes.

This letter serves to provide an update about further support systems in place at Oldbury Wells School to help pupils, parents and teachers make the absolute most of their remaining time with us.

### **1. After School Revision**

As you will know, the school has been running a diverse after school revision programme since September. The uptake to the revision classes has been really strong in some subjects - thank you for supporting this. We appreciate that it is not always easy to organise transport from these sessions and as such we are extremely grateful for your efforts. There are, however, some subjects where attendance to sessions has been lower than we would like. It is important that over the coming weeks and months, pupils remain fully focussed on their revision, especially in those subjects which they may feel less confident in. Revision at home is key, but revision led by a specialist member of staff is even more valuable and we encourage students to attend sessions for the subjects where they have their biggest concerns to help fill those gaps more quickly.

There have been a few changes to revision days since September. The most recent after school revision information can be found by following this link:

[y11-revision-timetable-jan26.pdf](#)

### **2. Tutor Time Intervention**

As you will be aware, after October half term we re-purposed the way in which we utilise morning form time with a greater emphasis on supporting students in either English, Maths or Science, based on their subject of greatest need from the Y10 mocks. These sessions have been really well received and contributed towards some of the excellent improvements seen in those subjects between the end of Y10 and the Y11 mocks.

Now students have completed these mocks, we are changing the groups for pupils for the next rotation. From Monday, 19 January, Year 11 pupils will attend their new form time intervention groups from Tuesday-Friday each week. Monday remains assembly day with their previous, 'official' form tutor.

These new groups are now more finely designed to ensure that all students within the group are working at a similar grade and are working towards similar targets, allowing sessions to be even further focussed on providing bespoke academic support. This change will allow for tailored support, helping to address any specific gaps in knowledge or understanding, as well as the eradication of misconceptions.

We are confident that utilising form time like this will continue to support academic development and will positively influence your child's confidence and progress. Please continue to support these in the way that you did with the first rotation.

### **3. PSHE Programming and Revision Support**

As well as the form, lunch and after school revision opportunities, we are looking at how we can also help pupils with their general revision planning and assisting them with some of their 'non core' subjects within school time. We are looking at using some of our PSHE sessions (Week 1 Monday P1) for some subject specific 'master classes' to deliver some revision strategies/planning assistance as well as form tutors helping signpost their tutees to the subjects which they would get most 'gains' out of by attending sessions for. This will allow them to plan their revision more carefully and build confidence in all subjects as we enter the final stretch.

### **4. Second Mock Exams**

The second set of Year 11 mock examinations will take place shortly after February half term. These exams are as important as the ones sat in December as colleges will use the results to help determine post-16 placements and offers. They also provide pupils with the final opportunity to show what they are capable of and to identify areas to focus on ahead of the summer examinations.

A separate letter will be distributed closer to the time with further details about the mock exams, along with a link to a section of the website where the mock timetable will be displayed.

As always, should your child have any worries, questions or concerns, they should speak to their current form tutor, Head of Year 11 or their Pastoral Support Manager.

Contact emails are:

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| Mr Cowburn      | Head of Y11              | <a href="mailto:Terry.Cowburn@oldburywells.com">Terry.Cowburn@oldburywells.com</a>           |
| Mrs Shakespeare | Pastoral Manager for Y11 | <a href="mailto:Claire.shakespeare@oldburywells.com">Claire.shakespeare@oldburywells.com</a> |

We thank you, as always, for your continued support. Working together, we can ensure that every student has the opportunity to achieve their very best.

Yours faithfully



**Mr S Farish**

Assistant Head Teacher – Raising Attainment