



Our Ref: AWA/kmd/marchltr

02 March 2026

Dear Parents/Carers,

I hope that you and your family are well.

First of all, I want to thank you again for the ongoing support you provide in ensuring our learners are smart and ready for school each day. Wearing uniform correctly and with pride is something we value highly at Oldbury Wells; it fosters a sense of belonging and forms a key foundation of our successful school culture.

You may have seen on our social media accounts that Oldbury Wells was open for four days over the half-term holiday. During this time, we delivered our first ever 'February Half Term School' for Year 11 learners. The event was a tremendous success, with sessions available in GCSE Science (Physics, Chemistry and Biology), English Language, Maths, Drama, French and Business. I am delighted to share that more than half of the year group chose to take part. I would like to publicly thank Mr Cox, Mr Johnson, Mr Pollock, Ms Bishell, Ms Dijoux and Ms Morgan for generously volunteering their time, and to also thank our Year 11 parents/carers for making the arrangements needed for their children to attend. Your commitment is very much appreciated.

More recently, we held our second Year 11 parent/carer information evening. We were thrilled to welcome over 70 attendees, who had the opportunity to learn more about how they can best support learners in English Language, English Literature and Maths. The sessions were delivered on a carousel by Dr Kiapene, Ms Roberts and Mrs Lawson, and focused on high-impact revision strategies, the most useful resources and effective techniques for active learning.

I am incredibly proud of how Oldbury Wells has gone further than ever before to support our Year 11 learners through both sets of mock exams, and of the new measures we continue to develop as we move towards the GCSE examinations. I am equally proud of how maturely and positively our learners have responded.

During the first weekend of half term, I attended an educational conference at the world-famous Eton College in Windsor. I am delighted to inform you that, as a result of this visit, Oldbury Wells has secured an exceptional opportunity for 14 of our Year 10 learners to attend Eton on 18 March 2026. Learners will take part in sessions focused on leadership and self-leadership, the use of artificial intelligence in education, study skills and time management, as well as enjoying a tour of the school and lunch with Eton students. It promises to be a rich and inspiring experience.

Following this visit, I am also pleased to confirm that we have been invited to undertake a joint research project with Eton College. As far as we are aware, Oldbury Wells is the only school in Shropshire granted this privilege and one of only a small number nationally. The focus of the project is likely to relate to developing learner independence. Mr Pollock will attend a full day at Eton this week to work with Dr Iro Konstantinou and other senior researchers to determine next steps. This collaboration will also allow us to network with colleagues from other high-performing institutions - an opportunity that is certain to benefit our staff and, ultimately, our learners.

With respect to teaching and learning, we are pleased to have appointed a highly experienced teacher to work alongside Ms Dijoux and Ms Fishleigh in the Modern Foreign Languages department. I am also grateful to TrustEd Alliance for supporting us as we begin the process of appointing a new Deputy Headteacher. This will further strengthen the capacity of our Senior Leadership Team, and the job advert will shortly appear in the Times Educational Supplement. We are excited about the positive impact this new role will have on our school and on the experience of our learners.

Regarding Year 9 options, we have made several improvements this year. One of the most significant is the opportunity for parents, carers and learners to meet with a member of the Senior Leadership Team for a supportive, personalised and constructive conversation about option choices. This is designed to ensure that every young person makes decisions that are well-informed, appropriate and aligned with their long-term aspirations.

Although I would prefer not to end on a negative note, it has been brought to my attention that a small number of learners have posted defamatory and malicious content about the school and staff on TikTok. Such actions carry the risk of causing real harm and bringing the school into disrepute. I kindly ask that you speak with your children about this matter and reinforce the importance of not creating, sharing or engaging with such content. These behaviours can lead to serious consequences and may place a learner's place at our school at risk - something we are keen to avoid.

Across many areas of school life, I am truly delighted with the progress being made. Our intention is to create an environment where academic excellence and meaningful opportunity go hand-in-hand, and your ongoing partnership plays a vital role in that mission.

Thank you for your continued support and for taking the time to read this letter.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Wa', with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Adam Walker
Headteacher