



Our Ref:

29th May 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

While closed to most learners, Oldbury Wells School has remained a hive of purposeful activity. This week we again welcomed Year 11 for our *holiday revision school*, with thirty learners attending History yesterday morning and further sessions in Science, Textiles, Maths and English running throughout the week.

These opportunities follow two recent *Saturday Schools*, each attended by over half the year group — a tremendous commitment. I would like to thank parents/carers for their continued support and to recognise the dedication of my staff.

Throughout the year, your feedback has been invaluable. Many of the changes introduced since September have received overwhelmingly positive responses. Your constructive comments — through surveys, correspondence, meetings and my Headteacher surgeries — have helped shape our improvement journey.

As we approach the final half term, I would like to summarise key developments made in direct response to your feedback 'you said – we did....'

1. You said: visibility of staff needed to be improved.

We did:

- Senior Leadership Team members are now on duty from 8:15am and again after school until 3:35pm.
- Our on-call lesson support system has doubled in capacity.
- The school crossing is now staffed at lesson changeovers.
- More staff are on duty at break and lunch than in 2024-25.

2. You said: ICT needed investment.

We did:

A three-year ICT investment programme is underway. This year:

- The network has been upgraded for faster, more stable access.
- A full Wi-Fi upgrade is delivering a ten-fold increase in bandwidth.
- All classrooms now have state-of-the-art interactive whiteboards – a further fifteen added this half term.

- Forty new devices will be installed in DT and Music Technology this summer.
- Fifteen new high-spec laptops are now available for student use.

3. You said: Communications from school needed strengthening

We did:

- Ten Headteacher letters have been issued so far this year.
- The school website now provides up-to-date information on trips, letters, clubs and revision.
- Our social media presence continues to grow, with over 120 updates this calendar year and many more across the academic year.
- We have introduced a hybrid parents' evening to support families in remote locations. Corresponding gains in staff time have been reinvested in our CPD programme to upskill colleagues and make teaching more impactful.
- A review of school reports is underway to make them more meaningful and potentially more frequent.
- We have run two Year 11 GCSE Information Evenings and introduced a Parent Information Evening in Year 10. Only one such evening was in place last year.
- We have provided a revision booklet for each child in Year 10 to assist preparations for the mock exams, with a variety of QR codes taking them to revision strategies, revision advice and high-quality learning opportunities on key topics.
- We have introduced a face-to-face Year 9 'options evening' where parents/carers and their children have a personalised meeting with a member of the Senior Leadership Team to discuss next steps. We have also introduced a corresponding options booklet.

4. You said: Sport and athletics needed attention.

We did:

- The long jump track is being fully upgraded with a new all-weather runway and sandpit.
- Rugby returned to Oldbury Wells through our partnership with Bridgnorth Rugby Football Club.
- We have reaffirmed our commitment to cricket by using Alveley Cricket Club as our home ground.

5. You said: Improvements were needed in Science and English.

We did:

- A new Cluster Lead for Science joins us in September 2026; he is currently a Director of Science across a large multi academy trust in Sandwell and therefore brings significant expertise.
- A review of the Key Stage 3 Science curriculum has begun.
- We have refined our approach to English Language Papers 1 and 2 using examiner feedback. This has been fed into teaching in Year 10 and Year 11.
- A review of the Key Stage 3 English curriculum begins this summer.

6. You said: the curriculum needs to be ‘broad’ and assessments reviewed.

We did:

- We have appointed an additional Design and Technology teacher who is also a Lead Teacher of Construction, enabling us to explore delivering this subject on site.
- Our use of Alternative Provision, including Crows Mill, has expanded to support vocational pathways.
- We have also begun to review assessments in Key Stage 3 and 4 across all subjects to ensure they are valid, accurate and reliable.
- Revision Revolution – how to revise effectively ahead of assessments has been launched to all year groups in assembly and form time. Revision revolution content is applied in subject classes too.

7. You said: Performing Arts opportunities need to be developed at Oldbury Wells.

We did:

- A new Drama teacher joins us in September, bringing extensive experience in large-scale productions.
- A new English teacher with a degree from the Royal Academy of Dance and Acting also joins the team. Full scale musical theatre productions will be back at Oldbury Wells School.
- For the first time since 2020, we held a Christmas musical extravaganza involving six primary schools and Oldbury Wells learners, receiving excellent feedback.

8. You said: The school site needed an upgrade:

We did:

- £60,000 was invested in February to refurbish part of the East Side roof.
- A further £100,000 will be invested this summer to replace the Scola block roof.

- A rolling programme of painting and decorating continues each holiday.
- We are also investigating the use of 'wall art' to refresh some spaces.
- Two new student support centres will open in September 2026. We are also in talks with an outside agent about the possibility of launching a third.
- The revitalised *top court* playground will support our new Year 7 cohort.

9. You said: support for Year 11 needed to be greater and timelier.

We did:

- Form-time intervention was inaugurated in November, focusing on high-impact areas.
- For the first time, a full suite of Christmas mocks was completed.
- Question Level Analysis has been used to identify highest-leverage actions.
- PSHE interventions began significantly earlier than in previous years.
- *Golden Days* and *Golden Mornings* were new strategies and provided targeted Maths and English support.
- Holiday schools in multiple subjects were introduced for 2025/26.

10. You said: Trips and visits needed to be expanded.

We did:

- Year 10 will visit the First World War battlefields of Ypres and the Somme.
- Upper school have been on a performing arts residential to London (new for 2026).
- A lower-school foreign trip — to another continent — is being planned. Watch this space!
- UK based trips have been plentiful this year.
- Year 10 have been invited to express interest in a team-building residential at PGL Boreatton Park.
- We are delighted to confirm that Year 6 – Year 7 Summer School is back at Oldbury Wells!

11. You said: Uniform, standards and attendance needed to be improved.

We did:

- Uniform standards required improvement, and this has been addressed.
- We have provided both challenge and support to ensure expectations are met.

- Feedback from the school and wider community has been highly positive.
- As standards have risen, the vast majority of learners have responded well; where needed, support and accountability have been applied.
- Attendance has improved, we have changed to a more proactive approach. We know we can improve attendance further. If your child has a mild illness but can manage the school day, we would encourage them to attend.
- We have had a focus on 'PROUD', to ensure that learner presentation is of high quality.

While it is not possible to capture every aspect of parental feedback in one letter and our next steps, I hope this summary provides reassurance of the measures being taken to strengthen the learner experience and improve outcomes across the school. Your support and feedback are vital to this process.

I look forward to welcoming learners back to Oldbury Wells School on Monday 1st June in **full [uniform](#)** (page 3 onwards). As per the communication sent at Easter, please remember that [school shoes](#) (page 5) as of September 2026, should be **smart, formal and black polishable**. Unless advice is given to the contrary, **all learners are expected to have their blazers** with them when they return after half term.

I wish you and your family a happy remainder of the break.

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Adam Walker'.

Adam Walker
Headteacher