



**Our Ref:** AWA/kmd/headltr1

02 October 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

Our learners have made a fantastic start to the term. They look smart and purposeful, and their hard work has added enormously to the positive culture across the school.

Our new Year 7 cohort has settled into life at Oldbury Wells remarkably well. I am fortunate to spend most Friday lunchtimes supervising them with Ms Rock, and it is wonderful to see them enjoying their dedicated playground.

I also want to thank you for your support with our new Trust-wide mobile phone procedures. A welcome by-product of this policy is seeing so many students outside socialising. The upper school playground is noticeably busier than last year and it is fantastic to see students enjoying breaktimes together and playing sport.

### Open Evening Success

A sincere thank you to our learners, staff, and the wider Bridgnorth community for coming together for a fantastic Open Evening. It was incredibly busy! The hall was packed for both Headteacher speeches, and our parking areas, including the overflow on the field, were filled with hundreds of cars.

Beyond the great turnout, we received overwhelmingly positive feedback. Visitors complimented the passion of our staff, the electric atmosphere, our shared vision and how articulate and confident our learners were. There was also high praise for our expanded curriculum, which now includes Construction.



### Summer GCSE Results

Our departing Year 11 students made significant progress from their starting points, with the vast majority securing their first-choice colleges and courses.

We would like to highlight several exceptional individual performances:

- **Alex Foster & Max Ward:** Achieved an exceptional five Grade 9s each. Alex also secured four Grade 8s and a Grade 7, while Max earned three Grade 8s and two Grade 7s.

- **Harriet Haden:** Achieved an outstanding three Grade 9s, six Grade 8s, and a Grade 7.
- **Evie Prosser:** Achieved two Grade 9s, two Grade 8s, three Grade 7s, two Grade 6s, and a Grade 5.
- **Esther Smith:** Secured two Grade 9s, one Grade 8, five Grade 7s, and a Grade 6.
- **Jodie Ansell:** Achieved three Grade 8s, one Grade 7, and five Grade 6s.
- **Grace Parsons:** Achieved two Grade 8s, four Grade 7s, and three Grade 6s.
- **Aimee Fox:** Earned two Grade 8s, one Grade 7, and six Grade 6s.
- **Justin Maneclang:** Achieved one Grade 9, three Grade 8s, and five Grade 6s.
- **8+ Grades at 6–9:** Congratulations also to Ruby Pillans, Nyrah Khalil, Lizzie Dower, Ava Burrows, Arthur Howells, James Corey, and Finn McCafferty for achieving eight or more top grades.

Across the whole cohort, the number of students achieving a Grade 5+ in both English and Maths increased by **17 percentage points** between January and the final exams. High-performing schools typically see a 3–6% rise in that period, making this progress statistically significant and a clear testament to our new targeted support strategies, as well as the hard work of our students and families. We thank you for your support.



### Key Dates & Support for Year 11

- **Boreatton Park Residential:** This weekend, we are taking Year 11 to Boreatton Park near Shrewsbury for revision, team building and outdoor activities ahead of their mock exams. Thank you to Ms Clegg (Deputy Headteacher), Mr Williams (Deputy Headteacher), Mr Cowburn (Head of Year 11) and Mr Patel (Head of Science) for joining me on this important trip.
- **Year 11 Parent Information Evening (PIE):** Thursday, 8<sup>th</sup> October, 5:30pm – 6:30pm in the East Hall. We will cover revision strategies, explain our Personalised Learning Checklists (PLCs), and hear directly from the Heads of English, Maths and Science. We will also be presenting awards to over 30 Year 11 students for their dedication so far.
- **Careers Event:** Thursday, 8<sup>th</sup> October, from 6:30pm – 7:30pm in the East Sports Hall (open to Year 10 and 11).

### Student Leadership & New Staff

Over 40 of our students serve as Sports Leaders, hosting events for local primary schools. They recently ran an inter-primary cross-country competition at Oldbury Wells, representing our school brilliantly while ensuring the younger pupils had a fantastic experience.



In addition to this, over forty of our learners spent the last two days completing a Duke of Edinburgh walk through the Shropshire countryside. The DofE programme is a wonderful opportunity for our young people to step outside their comfort zones, develop vital leadership and problem-solving skills, and build resilience through teamwork. It is always inspiring to see how eagerly our students engage with these outdoor challenges and support one another along the way.

In respect of further leadership opportunities and experiences outside of the classroom, it is worth noting that Oldbury Wells School remains one of only a handful of institutions in Shropshire that has a Combined Cadet Force operating from its site. We would like to take this opportunity to remind our community of the amazing experiences on offer from gliding, to rifle firing to fieldcraft, and adventure training. The CCF provides an incredible platform for our young people to foster self-discipline, confidence and real-world leadership skills that stay with them long after they leave school.



Finally, we are delighted with how quickly our new teaching staff have settled in and impacted both the academic and co-curricular life of the school. A warm welcome and thank you to Mr Patel (Head of Science), Ms Smallwood (HLTA), Ms Kelly (Art), Ms Lewis (Drama), Ms Leake (English), Ms Furber (English), Mr Cullis (Lead Teacher of DT and Construction) and Ms Kennard (Drama and Cover Supervisor).

We look forward to seeing your positive impact on our community grow across the year and congratulations in joining a fantastic school, with great learners and a fabulous community.

Thank you, as always, for your continued partnership and support. It is always appreciated.

Yours faithfully

  
**Adam Walker**  
 Headteacher

