



Academy
Oldbury



SCHOOL
PROSPECTUS



WELCOME TO OUR SCHOOL

It is my pleasure to welcome you to Oldbury Academy. I am extremely proud to be Headteacher, following my appointment in January 2016. I hold a strong and uncompromising belief in the power of education to change the lives of young people, and every child at Oldbury will receive excellent teaching and plentiful opportunities to succeed.

At Oldbury, we are committed to ensuring the highest possible academic standards for students and are relentless in our ambition to achieve this. Academic excellence is a priority and we are unwavering in placing huge importance on making sure that teaching and learning is the beating heart of our school. At the same time, we recognise that each child brings something different to our school and we are dedicated to nurturing their personality, talents, and interests. All students will leave Oldbury Academy ready to make a positive contribution to our society.

Students at Oldbury demonstrate the highest standards of care, respect, tolerance and co-operation, and we take great pride in our community. Our ethos of CARE underpins every decision we make, and students are always at the centre of everything we do. Students who make good choices will be recognised, rewarded and

celebrated, whilst we will support and challenge those students who fail to meet our high expectations.

I am very lucky to lead a talented, well-qualified and committed group of staff, all of which will go the extra mile and beyond to help your child succeed at our school. The recruitment and retention of high quality colleagues has been a priority for me, and it a pleasure to work alongside them. We have outstanding relationships with our parents and carers, and together, our partnership with you will secure the best possible outcomes and success for your child. We communicate with parents and carers regularly, and my team are always available to answer any questions, queries or concerns that you might have.

I hope you find the information in this prospectus useful, and we look forward to the opportunity of meeting you and showing you our school. We are rightly proud of everything associated with Oldbury Academy and look forward to sharing this with you in the future.


Philip Shackleton
Headteacher



Oldbury Academy opened in 2013 in a brand new, state of the art education facility. Prior to this, the school was called Oldbury College of Sport, which opened in 2007 as a merger of two previous schools; Warley High School (formerly Oldbury Technology college) and Langley High School (formerly Oldbury Grammar). Today the school serves over 1500 students from our local community.

#CARE

CELEBRATE TOGETHER

- Rewarding those who consistently 'get it right' in all aspects of school life.
- Every person being active in their contribution to our community.
- Working together to shape a brighter future.

ACHIEVEMENT FOR ALL

- Creating opportunities regardless of background and abilities.
- Shaping exceptional citizens, well equipped for the wider world.
- Supporting young people by offering a wide range of valuable, educational pathways.

RESPECT EACH OTHER

- A culture of tolerance, diversity, understanding and equality.
- An environment where everyone feels safe, secure and included.
- All members of our community being independent and making positive, well informed choices.

EXPECTATIONS TO SUCCEED

- High levels of challenge, expectation and accountability.
- Developing a culture of success, positivity and happiness.
- Aspirational 'thinking and doing' to reach and exceed your own goals.



“I feel safe at Oldbury and have made lots of new friends from other primary schools”

Shaniya, Year 7

Transition Days

Moving to secondary school is a hugely exciting prospect, and a very important period in a child's life.

At Oldbury Academy we understand how valuable an effective transitional period can be, so we run a series of events to support your child in making a positive move upwards to Year 7. We run transition days in July where students can take part in our lessons, try the food from our canteen and meet key members of staff, such as their Head of Year and their new form tutor.

We also run an information evening for all of our new parents where there will be an opportunity to meet your child's tutor, and ask any questions you might have.

In addition to this we will visit your child's primary school before they start with us, so that we can start getting to know your child as early as possible!

Junior Leadership Team

At Oldbury Academy we are committed to working with, listening to, and supporting our students in making their school a better place. The Junior Leadership Team (JLT) was established in September 2015 to give students the platform to voice their views and opinions on how we can continue our road to success.

The JLT is broken down into three working parties, Community, Care and Curriculum. These focus on specific areas of our school to ensure that students have their say in these key aspects of school improvement.

The JLT have worked on a range of different projects in school, and also supported various charities in raising money for good causes. Community projects have taken place, and different events are led by the students on the JLT to enhance their leadership skills for their future. We are dedicated to allowing our students the responsibility to make decisions, the courage to speak out, and the motivation to want to support their school. We look forward to giving your child the opportunity to join our JLT and make a positive contribution to our school.

Our School Day

Our school day is planned to allow all students to get the most from their education. After starting the day with their form group, our day consists of five 55 minute lessons. A 50 minute lunch allows students to take part in clubs and activities that not only build on learning in the classroom, but also provide opportunities to meet other students, learn new skills and make new friends.

| | |
|---------------|---------------------------|
| 8.50-9.15am | Registration / Tutor Time |
| 9.15-10.10am | Period 1 |
| 10.10-11.05am | Period 2 |
| 11.05-11.25am | Break |
| 11.25-12.20pm | Period 3 |
| 12.20-1.15pm | Period 4 |
| 1.15-2.05pm | Lunch |
| 2.05-3.00pm | Period 5 |

Our Form Groups

A strong form tutor really can make a difference for students. With 25 minutes together at the start of the day, focusing on key themes such as behaviour, attendance, rewards, British Values, literacy, numeracy and standards of uniform, the start of the day sets the tone for the the learning that takes place afterwards.

Of course the role of a form tutor goes far further than this. A good form tutor knows the students in their group, knows their families and has positive relationships that support and challenge at the same time to ensure that all students get the most from school.

As a parent, you should expect to know your child's form tutor and hear from them if the need arises. They will be there for you as the first point of call if you need to speak to them.

The Importance Of Good Attendance

Good attendance and punctuality are not just important for school, they are key life skills. We do not want any student to miss out on school life; the friendships, the trips and their learning. Attendance is so important to success in education. Our student target for attendance is 98%. Punctuality is equally as important as arriving to school late on a regular basis could result in important messages being missed during registration time or lost learning time from lessons.

Students who attend school regularly on time and have an excellent attitude to learning will be offered opportunities to take part in reward opportunities e.g. visits to local and national sporting events, a day at the seaside, trips to theme parks, visits to the theatre or cinema and many more.

Support will be put in place for those students who do not attend as regularly as they should or are regularly late to school. We work closely with the Attendance & Prosecution Service to ensure students attend school as often as possible.

Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural Education

We work hard to make sure that all Oldbury Academy students leave us as well rounded individuals, ready and able to make a positive contribution to society. We deliver SMSC and British Values through registration periods and an exciting programme of guest speakers, workshops and assemblies.

Safeguarding and Child Protection

The safety of our students is our absolute priority. We have an excellent reputation in the local area for our safeguarding practices and are justifiably proud of this. All of our staff are fully trained with regards to safeguarding and child protection, and this training is updated on a regular basis. We enjoy very positive relationships with various partners in the local area who support us with our safeguarding and child protection processes.

If you have any concerns about the safety of a child please get in touch with us at; childprotection@oldburyacademy.org.uk



“Training for safeguarding is effective and ensures that all adults in the school contribute to a culture where children feel safe.”

OFSTED 2017-18



Pupil Premium

In 2011 the government introduced The Pupil Premium, which is funding for schools that is used to support the education of disadvantaged students. This was based on extensive international research which highlighted that students from disadvantaged backgrounds are more likely to underachieve at school.

In order to be eligible for The Pupil Premium, students must fall into one of the following categories:

- The student is eligible for and claims free school meals.
- The student is in looked-after care by a local authority, has been adopted, or lives under a special guardianship order.
- One or more of the student's parents serve in the Armed Forces.

If a student falls into one of these categories then they will be eligible for The Pupil Premium for the next six years of their school life.

At Oldbury Academy, we are committed to ensure that all students, regardless of background, have the opportunity to succeed. We use our Pupil Premium funding to support a variety of initiatives that support raising achievement of students who fall into the above categories. This might include mentoring programmes, academic coaching, and enrichment activities.

Our policy on Pupil Premium, along with a full breakdown of our Pupil Premium spend, is available on our website.

KS3 Curriculum Overview

At Oldbury Academy, we are proud to be able to offer our students in Key Stage 3, a broad, balanced and bespoke curriculum. Students will follow a curriculum that suits their own needs, which will ensure they leave us with the best possible outcomes at the end of Year 11. All students will study English, Maths, Science, History, Geography, RE, Creative Arts, IT, Technology (which includes Product Design, Food Technology, and Resistant Materials) and PE. The majority of students will also study Foreign Languages although some students will take part in additional literacy support during this time to support this key skill. At Oldbury, KS3 is year 7, 8 and 9.

KS4 Curriculum Overview

As students move into Key Stage 4, they will have the opportunity to make informed choices about the subjects they study. This will differ from student to student, as students will follow a bespoke educational pathway that allows them to maximise their potential at school. All students will still study English, Maths, and Science, but they will be able to select from other subjects to complete their timetable. We will always guide students towards subjects we feel they will excel in. At Oldbury, KS4 is year 10 and year 11.

SEN Information

Oldbury Academy has an excellent reputation for supporting students with additional educational needs. A recent Ofsted report commented on the excellent leadership of the area, and also noted how students with Special Educational Needs make good progress alongside their peer group. This good reputation comes through our passion and commitment to supporting all students regardless of need, by ensuring we develop close links with families and fostering with productive relationships with our external partners.

If you would like to know more about our SEN provision or if you have any queries, please get in touch with us at:
sensupport@oldburyacademy.org.uk.





English

Why limit your life to being one character; when you can read and become so many? Key Stage 3 English study, will explore a range of popular texts; such as Harry Potter alongside more traditional reading, as we seek to develop students skills in this core subject area. As students move into Key Stage 4 they will engage with some of the most spectacular books and plays, which include Macbeth, Romeo and Juliet, The Merchant of Venice, Pride and Prejudice, A Christmas Carol, Jayne Eyre and Dr Jekyll & Mr Hyde.



Science

Have you ever wondered your body is the way it is? Why does the sky look like it does? That is why we love Science, we like to know why, how and what if? In the Science department we are passionate about understanding why and how things work. We cover topics such as atoms, forces, nanoparticles, space and even the Big Bang, all delivered through a range of interesting practical experiments. We will help your child explain what they see happening around them, as we develop by experiencing the magic of this fascinating subject!



ICT, Business & Law

Using our newly developed computer suites, students engage with modern and rapidly developing technology as soon as they start with us. At Oldbury, students develop their skills of web design, programming, as well as software specific units. Students may have the option to study Computer Science, iMedia, and Business Studies alongside ICT as they move into Key Stage 4 and 5.



Maths

Our Mathematics course focuses on real life scenarios and problem solving to enable students to access the wide world and everything mathematical within it. Engagement in Mathematics is key, and the faculty have invested in many up to date resources such as MyMaths, Pixl Maths and ActiveLearn to encourage students to work independently and realise that Maths is everywhere and affects everyone!



Creative Arts

The Creative Arts curriculum is inclusive of Drama, Dance, Music and Art. The faculty provides the opportunity to stretch and challenge students imagination, enabling all to become resourceful, confident and independent learners. We provide creative experiences which build self-esteem, reliance and develop problem solving skills. Our progress is showcased in our annual blockbuster performance which celebrates all of our students talents!



Humanities

Humanities fires the imagination of all students, and the study of Geography, RE, and History throughout Key Stage 3 will help them explain the world around them. They will answer questions such as 'Why was there a Civil War in England in 1642?', 'How do earthquakes happen?' and 'Why did China adopt a One-Child policy?' All of our humanities subjects are popular options at Key Stage 4, as students go on to specialise in their chosen areas.



Applied Learning

The Applied Learning and Technology Faculty aims to give students the opportunity to develop skills and knowledge in a range of academic, vocational and applied subjects. Through providing a varied and exciting curriculum we hope to build confidence and allow students the chance to grow into creative thinkers and resilient learners. In Key Stage 4 students may study Product Design, Food Technology, Construction, Product Design, Catering, Film Studies, Health and Social Care, Beauty Therapy and Childcare.



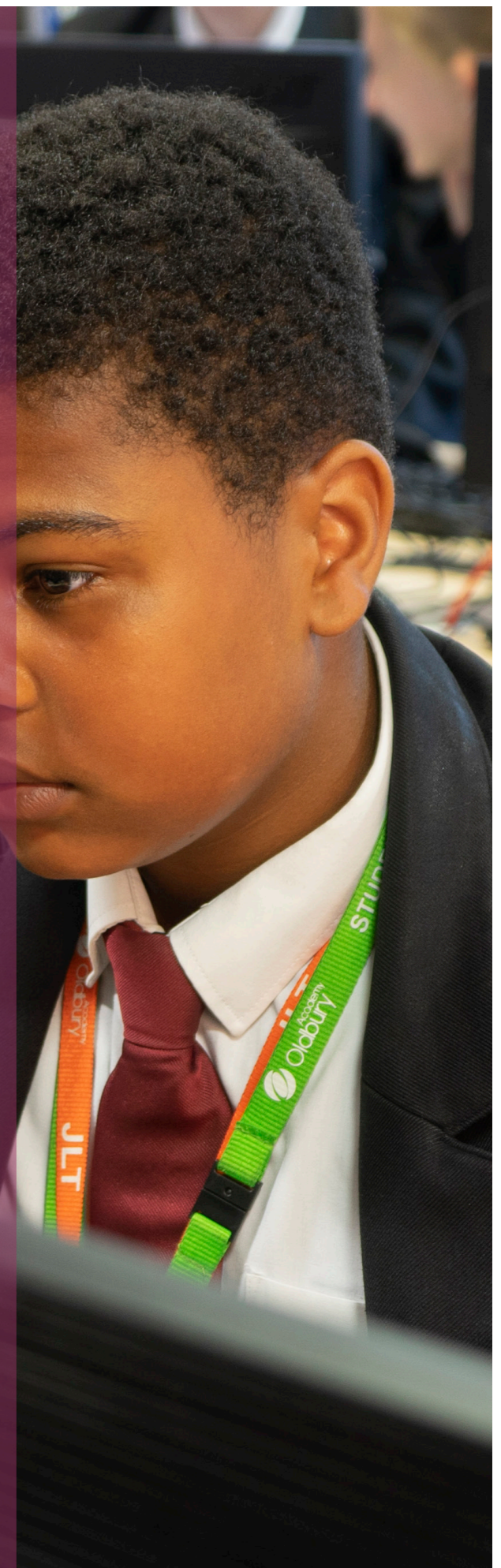
Languages

Guten tag! In an ever-growing global community, the study of a language is becoming increasingly important. Languages bring with them so many opportunities and develop skills such as public speaking, problem solving and general literacy; improving a pupil's spelling and even their understanding of English. Throughout both key stages, we will develop awareness of all four language skills (listening, speaking, reading and writing), as we look to develop this most important skill in your child.



Sport

Oldbury Academy has a thriving PE Faculty which promotes an active, healthy lifestyle to the pupils and the community. Key Stage 3 PE lessons are designed to give pupils a broad and balanced experience of different sports. Key Stage 4 PE lessons provide the opportunity for pupils to specialise and follow a pathway in either Performance, Recreation, Personal Training or Competition.



School Uniform & Personal Appearance

At Oldbury Academy, we maintain the highest standards of school uniform. We believe it helps to give our students a sense of belonging to a community and a feeling of pride in our school. It also helps to teach them the importance of wearing the correct clothes for a particular situation. For these reasons we insist that a student's clothing and personal appearance adheres to this policy and action will be taken with regard to non-compliance.

The school uniform/personal appearance requirements are set out below; both are strictly monitored. Parental support is requested to ensure all students maintain these standards. The majority of uniform items can be purchased from a variety of outlets. School badges and ties can also be directly ordered from the school.

Our Uniform

- Black blazer with school badge
- Plain white blouse or shirt, suitable for wearing with a tie
- School tie
- Black trousers/black knee length skirt
- Black polished shoes
- Black or white socks or flesh coloured/black tights (not patterned)
- Optional mid grey V neck jumper

P.E Kit

- Black or blue hoodie/zip up with school logo
- Black or blue polo shirt with the school logo
- Black or blue rugby shirt with the school logo
- Black shorts or tracksuit bottoms with the school logo
- Football socks (black)
- Black trainers (not pumps)

Jewellery

- A watch
- 1 plain ring (no sovereign rings or similar)
- 1 set of stud earrings (no hoops, spacers or dangling earrings)
- No facial piercings
- Items worn for religious observance should be discrete in size (e.g. cross and chain, kirpan, must be no larger than 2.5cm). In addition evidence of formal initiation/baptism to be provided by parents where pupils wear these items. (Further guidance is available upon request regarding the wearing/carrying of a kirpan.)

Appearance

- Make up to be discrete and of a natural palette.
- Nails are to be trimmed to a moderate length.
- Nail varnish, if worn, must be a pale colour.

Hair

Long hair must be tied back in practical lessons. A student may choose to enhance the appearance of their hair through subtle, natural highlights but the use of bright coloured all over sprays or dyes, or block highlights, are unacceptable and inappropriate for school. Whilst we are aware that students may want the latest hairstyles or cuts, unfortunately, in many cases these are not consistent with our overall policy for school dress. Small, straight, parting lines may be shaved into the hair but no other lines or patterns are acceptable. A shaven head is unacceptable except for medical reasons.



“We expect the highest standards of appearance both in school and out in our community.”



Head of Year

Our Heads of Year play a crucial, strategic role in supporting students in their year group at the academy. They are responsible for the pastoral care of students, ensuring outstanding conduct and excellent levels of appearance. Heads of Year are also responsible for academic performance, and will identify and support those students who underachieve, whilst rewarding those who consistently get it right at school.

Assistant Head of Year

Assistant Heads of Year play a supportive role to ensure consistently high standards across the academy. They focus on identifying groups of underachieving students for intervention, and work with teaching staff to provide a detailed provision for these individuals.

Student Welfare Officer

SWO's support students on a day-to-day basis, offering valuable support for those who may require a helping hand. SWO's will intervene with students who do not attend school regularly, as well as being a central part of our safeguarding and behavioural processes.

Careers

We are relentless in our commitment to students leaving Oldbury Academy, not only able to make a positive contribution to society, but with a clear idea and plan in mind for the next steps of their lives. All students have an entitlement to careers education, and will have multiple opportunities during their time at Oldbury to develop their knowledge of what options are open to them post-16. Students may undertake work placements in Key Stage 4, and we welcome expert speakers into school throughout the academic year, to support and inspire our students.

COMMUNICATION WITH HOME

We communicate with you using a wide variety of methods; our weekly newsletter gives you a snapshot of what is going on in school, but you can also visit our website, follow us on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram. We also text you important information where necessary, and of course we are always at the end of the phone if you need us.



Get in touch with us...

Learn today **LEAD TOMORROW!**



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