



# Transition Team 2020



Hi everyone!

My name is Ms Rashford, I'm Oldbury Academy's Special Needs Coordinator, or SENCo for short. It's my job to make sure everyone who has different or additional needs has what they need to succeed in school. If you have dyslexia or ASD or any other need that can sometimes cause you difficulties, I am here to help. Me and my team work really hard to make sure that teachers all know how to best support you and to make sure you're happy, safe and secure being with us at Oldbury Academy. We all take our jobs really seriously and make it our priority to keep you and your families well cared for and listened to. We organise fun activities for lunchtimes and make sure you always have a special place in school to come and see us and meet and make friends.

I can't wait to meet you and hope you're looking forward to coming in to

us too! Be safe and well, Ms Rashford



Hello there!

My name is Mrs Hancox and I am responsible for everything to do with languages. A big part of my job is working with children who have recently come from abroad and whose English needs improving. I work very hard to help INAs (International New Arrivals) settle in and feel at home here at Oldbury Academy. As a pupil with English as an Additional Language (EAL), you will work with me and my team until your English has improved and you can join in with your lessons. We are like one big, happy family in languages, and each new starter is welcomed with open arms. I cannot wait to meet any INAs who will be joining this September.



Hi! I am Mrs Roberts and my role in school as the Learning Support Centre Manager, is to support any students who may be experiencing some social, emotional, or behaviour difficulties. Starting secondary school is an exciting step in a young person's school life and it is important that as part of our school family, our students are happy, confident, feel safe, and able to access the curriculum and learn. It is my job is to work closely with students, parents and other agencies to make sure this happens. Starting secondary school can be quite an anxious time, which is perfectly normal, so students may find themselves being supported by me, but don't worry I'm a good listener, and hopefully through developing some coping strategies and encouragement, you will enjoy and achieve at Oldbury Academy!



My name is Ms LaTouche and my role is to be a Point of contact to parents regarding their child's attendance (i.e. reporting absences, requesting unauthorised absence/holiday forms, providing evidence to explain child's absence [medical or other], having parent meetings etc). I also carry out safe & well visits when their child has been absent for 3 days or more and support them to help their child to improve on their attendance to prevent legal action from occurring.

In the Attendance Office we have an 'open door policy', meaning that students are welcome to speak to either myself or the Attendance Officers (Mr Windmill, Mrs Samra & Miss Gilbert), to discuss their attendance percentage, their punctuality (i.e signing in) and to inform us of any appointments etc to sign out of school (evidence & contact from parent/carer will be required). We do encourage all students to maintain a high attendance and punctuality standard throughout the year, to enable them to perform well in their lessons (avoiding missing work or crucial information) and to be a reliable student and individual in future too.



Hi!

I am Mrs Collins and I am the Assistant SENCo. I have an incredible role that allows me to support each step students with SEN take on their journey through their time at Oldbury Academy.

I have a key role in transition, ensuring that students with SEN are taken care of from the moment they get their place. I liaise with Primary schools and Inclusion Support to ensure that we have all the information we need about each child to ensure a smooth transition to Oldbury Academy, as well as putting much needed provisions in place from day one. I also organise the extended transition programme and undertake many school visits with the transition team to help students and their families with all the emotions and questions that come with moving to high school. Through-out the year I timetable the SEN team, ensuring that all students who require extra support in class have this available. I also work with a team of amazing LSP's to timetable and organise interventions to help our students reach their full potential. In KS4, I teach many of our students with SEN on our differentiated pathway designed to give them the vital skills they need to live happy, independent and fulfilling lives in the ever-changing world.

I can't wait to meet you all and start your new journey with you!



Hi there!

My name is Mrs Chatwin and I am the External Support Coordinator and work in the Learning Support Centre with Miss Roberts. I have worked at Oldbury Academy for over 5 years now and I am proud to be part of the OA community and I love my job!

Previous to this role I used to be a Student Welfare Officer at Oldbury Academy so I understand that role and the support that students need to succeed. I have also worked in other Secondary Schools and Primary Schools in the local area.

My main role now is to make sure that all pupils and families are happy. Sometimes families need to use External Agencies help to ensure that everything is the best it can be. I truly believe that when children have a happy and stable home life it has the most positive impact on their education. I am proud to say I have a good working relationship with many of our families.

I also help new starters join the school if for any reason they need a change in their education environment.

I enjoy working closely with pupils to make sure their learning journey goes as smoothly as possible so you can achieve the best you can.

I look forward to meeting you, and you are more than welcome to pop into the office for a chat, I am always happy to help!



Welcome to Oldbury Academy

My name is Miss Wilden and I am the Office Manager here at Oldbury Academy. I have worked in the main office at Oldbury Academy for nearly 6 years now. I am honoured to lead the team of office staff who are the first port of call for parents and students alike.

One of my roles is to ensure that the communication between the school and parents is the best it can possibly be. I also coordinate the photographs for the students throughout the year, and lead on the Offsite visits.

During the transition process I will be supporting the transition team with their communication to parents and I will be ensuring that the information you need is identified and sent out. I look forward to working with you in the future.



My name is Mrs Tillotson. I have worked at Oldbury Academy for a long time and enjoy welcoming our new students every year. I am one of the Assistant Headteachers and my role includes making sure that you learn how to stay safe. We will teach you about online safety, relationships and how to look after your mental health among many other topics. You will even learn how to save a life through CPR!

I am part of a huge team that are here to make sure that you are safe and happy at Oldbury Academy. We make sure that there is always someone to talk to and help you to sort out any problems you may

have. All members of staff are friendly and welcoming - happy to support you during your first few days and beyond. Oldbury Academy must be a lovely place to be - I have been here for almost 18 years!

Stay safe and I look forward to meeting you all in September.



My name is Miss Gilbert I work in the attendance office at Oldbury Academy, I have worked at Oldbury Academy for just over 1 year. The support that the students get is absolutely second to none! To help with your transition from your Primary school to Oldbury Academy I will be contacting your primary school to collect information on yourselves.

This information is used to ensure you are all supported on your journey at Oldbury Academy. When your child starts in September I will be ensuring that they attend school and also that we get as much information as we can from primary schools. I work closely with Mr Brittle in the organising and planning of key events throughout the year.



Hello. My name is Mr Burgoyne and I am the Assistant Headteacher responsible for Pastoral Care and the promoting of behaviour and conduct around our Academy that allows all of our students to achieve (or even exceed) their potential. I have high expectations for all of our students and oversee our rewards processes which aim to acknowledge our students' successes throughout the academic year. I work closely with many of the parents of our students, and organise the parents' evenings throughout the year. Oldbury Academy is a big part of my life, having worked here for almost 20 years. I do hope that you will be as proud to attend and be a part of our Academy, as we are to welcome you onto our roll.



My name is Mr Davis and I am one of the Deputy Headteachers at Oldbury Academy. My responsibilities are all things to do with pastoral care and student support. I work with a superb team of colleagues to ensure that students are happy and safe in school. We understand that growing up can be tough and there are challenges that challenge young people. Not everyone copes in the same way, that's the beauty of being an individual! We like to celebrate student individuality and understand that people have different strengths and similarly can find some things more challenging when others do not. Moving from Year 6 to Year 7 is one of these times and with the way things are at the moment across the West Midlands, the UK and also the world it means it is even more important that we support our new students through this process. All of the staff identified will be pulling together to make sure that when your

learning starts at Oldbury Academy it is as smooth as it possibly can be. Parents, we also know how stressful this can be for you too, so the expert team of staff are only ever a phone call, an email or a social media post away from resolving any queries you may have. No question is silly and no concern too small. We can't wait to start our journey together as soon as possible.



Hello!

My name is Mr Brittle and I am the Operations Manager at Oldbury Academy. I am very lucky to have the overall responsibility for Transition from Year 6 to 7. I have been working at Oldbury Academy for 10 years now so I know the school inside out. I have previously been a Student Welfare Officer, an Assistant Head of House and also a Head of House – being the only Non-Teaching Head of House Oldbury Academy has ever had. I have led transition programme for over 4 years now.

One of my main roles is to ensure that everything is set in place to support all students and parents during the transition process. We understand it is a completely daunting time, but my job is to make it as seamless as possible. I also collate all of the information from primary schools and then ensure that the relevant members of the transition team identify the students who they will be working with. I then plan and lead the transition days in July, along with the transition evenings in May and July. I am the main point of contact for all students and parents before I hand the reins over to Mrs Mewis – Head of Year 7 in September. I am so looking forward to seeing all of the students attending Oldbury Academy in September and I welcome you to visit our website for more information.





Hi Year 7, we can't wait to meet you all and for you to begin your secondary school journey with us. We will be doing things slightly different this year as our priority is keep you all safe in these uncertain times but we will still be ensuring that you get to know all about Oldbury Academy and are fully prepared to join us later on in this year.

I have been Head of Year 7 for the past two years. I am lucky enough to be the only Non-Teaching Head of Year that Oldbury Academy have ever had. I will be responsible, along with your Form Tutors, for ensuring that you settle in well and make the best possible start at Oldbury Academy. As a parent myself I understand how important it is to get transition right and will be working with Primary Schools, Parents and yourselves over the next few months to make sure we have all the right information to help you make the most of secondary school.