



OAKLANDS SCHOOL

Loughton's Leading Independent Prep School
Girls & Boys aged 2½ to 11

HISTORY

Oaklands is one of the longest established preparatory schools in the Epping Forest area. It was founded on the corner of Traps Hill in Loughton in 1937 by Miss Elizabeth Lord, and moved to its present site in Albion Hill in September 1944.

19TH AND 20TH CENTURY

The main building, then called Firbank, was built in 1837 and the iron railings around the main field go back to the 1870s. The Howards of Howard's Aspirins lived at Firbank from about 1915 until around 1930, and during the war it was home to a number of Belgian refugees. The assembly hall was enlarged and further classrooms were added in the 1940s. Miss Lord retired in 1982 and handed over to the Hagger Family.

21ST CENTURY

From 2006 onwards there has been a programme of renovation and modernisation on the school site that includes a purpose-built Art/Music Studio, use and development of Oak House for our Lower Kindergarten and Group Management, a large astroturf pitch and remodelled interior rooms and classrooms in the main building.

LOCATION

Oaklands is situated in a prominent location at the entrance to Loughton, close to several bus routes and only a 5-10 minute walk from the centre of the town. This makes it the ideal 'local' school for Loughton families, although children also come from areas such as Chigwell, Buckhurst Hill and Woodford. Set in many acres, the school benefits from a wide range of facilities, playing fields and specialist teaching areas. The large oak tree of the school badge stands proudly in the main field and goes back several hundred years.

THE OAK-TREE GROUP OF SCHOOLS

Oaklands School belongs to the Oak-Tree Group of Schools, which includes Braeside School in Buckhurst Hill, Coopersale Hall School in Epping and Normanhurst School in North Chingford. A successful group of local independent schools, all four are operated with the same aims of excellence and care, being owned and run by qualified educationalists who have much experience in the specialist world of teaching and learning.

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WELCOME TO OAKLANDS SCHOOL

When you arrive at Oaklands School you will experience a warm welcome from us that invites you and your child to be part of a very special community.

As the School is so well-established in the area and has been educating local children for around 80 years, we are seeing more and more children joining whose grandparents were at Oaklands themselves.

We value the close partnerships with our parents and the contributions you make to the education of your children. We attach a great deal of importance to keeping parents involved in their child's academic progress.

Our teaching methods combine the traditional and the modern to provide a stimulating and creative learning environment where children have access to highly qualified professionals who teach with flair and sensitivity.

Academically, we encourage our children to aim high and to have the confidence to learn new skills and interests. The broad range of activities both inside and outside the classroom provides a rich environment where all our children can discover hidden aptitudes and talents.

We emphasise the acquisition of social skills and encourage respect and consideration for others at all times. This helps children to understand the needs of others. Good manners, respect for others and self discipline are fundamental aspects of the core values we teach.

We pride ourselves on how well we know every child and how each one is treated as an individual. Children enjoy their time with us and develop into confident young people with a wide range of interests, a love of learning and a solid foundation on which to build their future at senior school and beyond.

You will have many questions when your children begin and continue their education at Oaklands. Our 'open door' policy enables parents to be quickly reassured by a class teacher, a member of the Senior Leadership Team or myself. We are happy to discuss any aspect of the education we provide.



Mrs Gretchen Copeman B.Ed.(Hons), QTS
Headmistress





OAKLANDS SCHOOL

Friendly, Family Atmosphere

As a relatively small school, we get to know every child well and this familiarity helps us to encourage and support the learning journey. Parents and inspectors have consistently praised the outstanding relationships between staff and pupils. We have an open door policy so you can talk to your child's keyworker, class teacher or the Headmistress on a daily basis.

A Personalised Education

We have a healthy balance between established and newer members of staff and they all support the School's ethos of providing traditional values and respect for others. This is evident inside and outside the classroom. Our teaching groups are deliberately small to give pupils a more personalised experience so they can reach their individual potential and make the maximum progress possible.

Excellent Preparation for Senior Schools

Preparation for senior school entry at 11+ begins as early as Year 3. With more specialist teachers and a broader range of subjects, the pupils gradually increase their workload. By the time they leave Oaklands aged 11, pupils are more confident, respectful, resilient and well-educated – ready for the next challenge.

Healthy Eating

Our chef prepares the daily lunches with his team using fresh fruit, vegetables, meat and fish sourced from local farmers, butchers and suppliers. Healthy eating is important for the children's development and they learn to make nutritional choices when dining.

Clubs and Activities

A wide range of clubs and activities are available for the children, which encourage them to experiment and take part in new experiences. The list changes from term to term so check our website for the latest information. Our Breakfast and Teatime Clubs can extend the school day, Breakfast Club is available from 7.30am and Teatime Club runs until 6pm.

Holiday clubs run during the Easter and Summer holidays, as well as some other holidays.

AN EXCELLENT CHOICE FOR YOUR CHILD

Partnership with Parents

Parents are encouraged to become involved as fully as possible in the life of the school. You may be able to help with the Parents' Association or volunteer in classrooms listening to children read. Some parents accompany school trips or help out at school events and everybody is welcomed to special assemblies, plays, musical events and sports days.

There are many opportunities for parents to share their views with us, from informal coffee mornings to parents' surveys, we value the close relationships there are between school and home and welcome suggestions for changes and improvement.

Beyond the Classroom

With two fields, an adventure playground, astroturf pitch and climbing frames, our beautiful grounds allow children to explore and play. We hold lessons outdoors in our 'Wild Woods' and children create imaginative scenes on the outside stage area. Forest walks take place and children grow vegetables in the school allotment that are served on special occasions as part of the lunchtime meal.

Outstanding Pastoral Care

As we are a relatively small school, we get to know every child. This familiarity helps us to encourage, support, develop and extend. Any problems are picked up and dealt with quickly. All staff, including the Headmistress, are available to discuss any issues.

11+ Senior School Entrance Exam Success

Our aim is for pupils in the Juniors to become self-confident and well-prepared for their chosen schools when they leave us at the end of Year 6. Oaklands pupils are recognised by many of the top selective independent schools as pupils who have good work ethics and an enthusiastic attitude to learning.



EARLY YEARS FOUNDATION STAGE: KINDERGARTEN AND RECEPTION - (2½ - 5 YEARS)



Our aim is to support children and parents, introducing them to school life with continual guidance and encouraging the youngest to develop a love of learning.

Children in the Early Years are offered caring and stimulating environments that enable them to learn, experiment, play and gain independence. We place emphasis on kindness, helpfulness,

sharing, courtesy and respect for others.

The curriculum is based on seven areas of learning: Communication and Language; Physical development; Personal, Social and Emotional development; Literacy; Mathematics; understanding the World; Expressive Arts and design.

Specified keyworkers oversee all social, academic and pastoral aspects of development and get to know children and parents very well.

Lower Kindergarten (2½ to 3 years) and Upper Kindergarten (3 to 4 years)

These classes are accommodated in their own separate well-resourced areas. We develop the safe and secure environment that parents find so assuring. Children in these classes are taught by specialist teachers for Music, Dance and PE/Games and use the main school facilities such as the Studio, ICT Suite, School Hall and extensive grounds.

Reception (4 to 5 years)

As the children's education starts to become more formal, they move to the main building. Each Reception class is assigned a teacher and an assistant who are responsible for monitoring their personal, social and academic progress.

We develop the children's reading and writing skills through a nationally recognised phonics scheme. We encourage creative practical play and number games to help improve numeracy skills.

Pupils are taught by specialist teachers for Computing, French, Music, PE/Games and Dance. Throughout the academic year they are encouraged to take part in drama performances, school assemblies and whole school events such as World Book Day.

Partnership with Parents

Parents and families are a valued part of the learning process and we try to involve you as much as possible. There is regular daily contact with each keyworker or teacher so that any questions or concerns can be addressed immediately without the need to wait for the more formal parent teacher meetings. Contact can be made via telephone, email, daily link books and, in Reception, reading diaries.

The School Day

Although the school day begins at 8.45am, parents are able to drop off from 8.30am. Those children who stay for lunch and afternoons, including the Reception children who attend full time, are collected at 3pm.

"We have been very happy with the way our son has settled in to Upper Kindergarten.

His keyworker keeps us informed with regular updates about his progress."

UK Class Mother





INFANTS: YEARS 1 AND 2 (5 - 7 YEARS)

Building on solid foundations - a happy place to grow and learn academically, socially, physically, and emotionally.

Curriculum

Although we use the National Curriculum as our framework, we add much more to enhance the quality of the education we are able to offer. Pupils are mainly taught by their class teacher and specialist teachers add to the learning experience in subjects such as Science, Computing, French, Music, PE/Games and Dance.

Reading aloud individually is encouraged on a daily basis and children learn at their own speed with guidance and assistance. Reading diaries are used to monitor children's progress and are useful for passing messages to and from school.

Spellings, writing skills and basic punctuation form part of the Years 1 and 2 curriculum, whilst in Maths children continue to enjoy number work and grow in confidence throughout the year. Numeracy skills are practised through a variety of tasks, games and problem solving activities.

Children have a broad range of subjects during the week that include Science, Computing, Music, PE, French, RE, Art and DT, Geography, History and PSHE.



Extra-Curricular Opportunities

Learning goes on outside the classroom through the use of our extensive grounds and on educational trips. Children take part in a variety of clubs, with most taking up several activities. The latest list of extra-curricular activities is available to download from our website.

Recognition and Progress

Recognition and rewards for effort, achievement and behaviour form regular parts of our assemblies. Our pupils take pride in their life at Oaklands and are delighted when rewarded. House Points are important for children to work towards House targets. Regular class assessments help our teachers to monitor progress in different areas of learning and to differentiate their teaching accordingly.

Partnership with Parents

We encourage families to become as involved as possible in their children's learning to maximize their full potential. Oaklands has an open door policy for parents to discuss their children's learning on a regular basis.

There are parent coffee mornings, class assemblies, formal parents' evenings, written bi-annual reports and workshops to enable parents to understand our modern teaching methods. The relationship between parents and school is very important.



The School Day

The school day starts officially at 8.45am and finishes at 3.15pm. However, children often start earlier through our popular Breakfast Club and stay later when attending one of our after school clubs, including Teatime Club that finishes at 6pm.

A healthy and nutritious lunch is served daily in the School Hall, with all dishes freshly created by our experienced chef and his team.

"Oaklands has an excellent reputation as a happy, friendly school."

Year 2 Parent







JUNIORS: YEARS 3 TO 6 (7-11 YEARS)

Oaklands is an excellent independent preparatory school. The focus on these years is to prepare children to achieve their full potential in the 11+ exams.

Curriculum

Pupils in Years 3 to 6 are taught in smaller class sizes with an excellent staff to pupil ratio that allows for a more personalised approach to learning. Although we follow the National Curriculum for Key Stage 2, we add so much more from a variety of additional sources to extend our pupils and enrich their learning experience.

Homework takes on more structure as pupils find their thinking and creative skills challenged.

Class teachers are responsible for their pupils' daily welfare, overall academic progress and social development. There are specialist teachers for Science, Computing, French, Music and PE/Games.

Extra-Curricular Opportunities

Children take part in a variety of clubs, with most taking up several activities each week. The latest list of extracurricular activities is available to download from our website. As pupils move through Years 3 to 6 they are given more opportunities for educational visits to enhance their classroom learning.

Progress, Attainment and Responsibilities

The pupils are rewarded for effort, achievement and behaviour, both as part of our assembly programme and the House Points system. National standardised tests and regular teacher assessments help staff to monitor progress and attainment. Year 6 pupils take on extra responsibilities in preparation for senior school life.



Excellent...

"To be able to say I really do love my job is fairly unique and many people don't have that luxury. No day is the same and each comes with its own challenge, but in my role I aim to inspire both teachers and pupils to take risks, pursue new challenges and make excellent progress."

Mrs Gretchen Copeman
Headmistress





Partnership with Parents

As with the earlier years, we encourage parents to become as involved as possible in their children's learning. Oaklands has an open door policy for parents to discuss their child with class/specialist teachers or the Headmistress. There are parent coffee mornings, class assemblies, formal parents' evenings and written bi-annual reports. We value the relationship between parents and school immensely and always have time for discussion.

Preparation for 11+

Our exam preparation at 11+ is exceptionally comprehensive and we are proud to boast that the majority of our Year 6 pupils achieve places at their first choice schools.

When children are in Years 5 and 6 we offer impartial advice based on our extensive experience on the huge range of senior schools available and which ones we consider to be most suitable.

The School Day

School starts officially at 8.45am and ends at 3.30pm. However, the majority of the children extend their day by attending several of our after school clubs and activities, including Teatime Club that continues until 6pm.

Breakfast Club is also available from 7.30am until the start of school.

"My children have thrived at Oaklands and continue to grow in confidence.

We definitely chose the best school!"

Year 6 Parent



PREPARATION FOR SENIOR SCHOOL

When our pupils are ready to move to senior schools at 11+, our preparation for examinations is very thorough and has proved to be consistently successful year after year.

Responsibility

Throughout Years 3 to 6, older pupils have many opportunities to develop their confidence and self-esteem. There are special responsibilities such as being a School/Food Council representative or volunteering to be one of our many playground buddies helping younger children.

Year 6 pupils become School Prefects and are expected to act as role models for the younger children. Prefect positions include House Captains or Vice Captains, Games Captains and Librarians.

The majority of pupils obtain places at one of their first choice senior schools at the end of Year 6. Alongside the rigorous personalised curriculum, our normal in-depth preparation for 11+ entrance examinations includes:

- Practising verbal and non-verbal reasoning from Years 3 to 6.
- Practising past papers and exam questions in English and Maths in Years 5 and 6.
- Holding individual parents' evenings in Year 5 to discuss which schools to apply for and to advise about application procedures.

- Holding mock interviews with the Headmistress.
- Organising scholarship preparation in small groups.

Not all senior schools are right for every pupil so it is important that a child goes on to attend the school that is most suited to his or her individual needs. We work very closely with parents to help ensure a smooth transition to the next stage of the children's education.

Excellent...

"My child's experience at Oaklands since joining in Lower Kindergarten has been fantastic! She has had the most fabulous start to her education and I cannot praise Oaklands enough."

Year 5 Parent

LEAVERS' DESTINATIONS

We are very proud of our pupils' record of gaining entry to the next stage of their education. There is a wide range of schools chosen by our pupils when the time comes to leave Oaklands at the end of Year 6. The most recent offers can be found on our website, and they include the following:

- | | |
|------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| • Bancroft's School | • Forest School |
| • Bishop's Stortford College | • Haileybury School |
| • Braeside School | • New Hall School |
| • Brentwood School | • Normanhurst School |
| • Chigwell School | • Queenswood School |
| • City of London School | • Roding Valley School |
| • Coopers Coburn School | • St Edmund's College |
| • Coopersale Hall School | • St Nicholas School |
| • Davenant School | • Trinity Catholic High School |
| • Felsted School | • West Hatch School |



CREATIVE ARTS

Art and Design

In the Art and Design department, pupils develop their imaginative and artistic talents working with a broad range of materials.

In Years 1 and 2 Art and Design stimulates the minds of our pupils and allows them to be creative and imaginative.

As children develop they become more self-critical and are able to see how their work can be developed or enhanced. Through encouragement and guidance it is important that all children feel they have succeeded and are proud of their finished product.

In Years 3 to 6 the focus of Art and Design is to develop a greater knowledge and understanding of the subject. The subject provides visual, tactile and sensory experiences and a way of understanding and responding to the world.



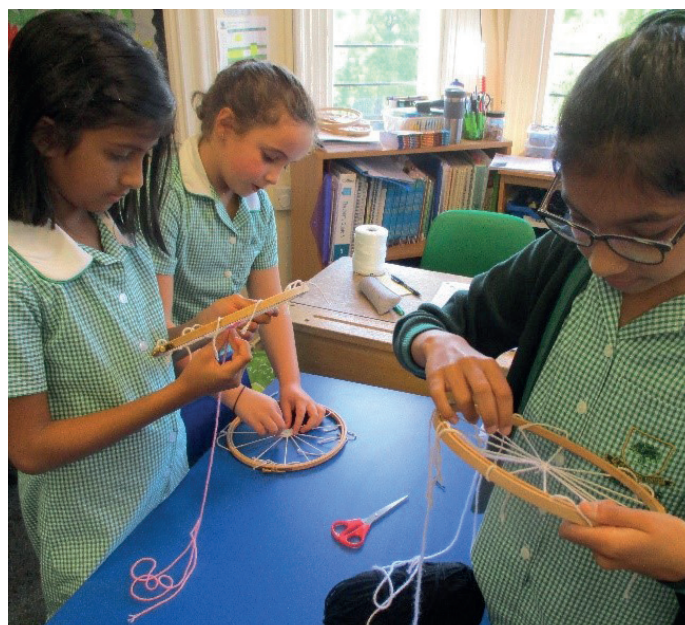
Drama

Drama is used in class assemblies to illustrate a variety of themes and topics to assist learning in the wider curriculum.

Through drama the pupils develop self-confidence, presentation skills and teamwork. Pupils enjoy rehearsing and performing in the annual school production and Christmas Carol Service. Extra classes are offered in Speech and Drama, with many children choosing to take LAMDA examinations.

Drama is used throughout the curriculum to develop speaking and listening skills, self-confidence, co-operation and community. Each year group has the opportunity to watch performances and workshops take place within school.

All pupils in Years 3 to 6 perform in several dramatic productions over the course of the academic year. This will involve them learning scripted lines, songs, choreographies and following directions. In later years, pupils help with making props, scenery and costumes, and are introduced to various backstage roles.



Music

Music plays an important part of our school life at Oaklands School.

Music is taught by a specialist teacher as a separate subject to all pupils from Upper Kindergarten upwards in our fully-equipped Studio. To complement our music curriculum, a number of visiting staff offer peripatetic tuition in instruments such as piano, flute, drums, cornet and violin. Every pupil is given the opportunity to perform to parents during the year. The choir and orchestra are growing larger and more proficient each year and perform regularly during events.

Oaklands takes part in the biennial Oak-Tree Schools Festival of Music and Dance, which brings together around 500 children from Oaklands and our three sister schools at a large concert venue to showcase our choirs, orchestras and dance groups to families.





SPORTS

Sport is a popular aspect of our curriculum and the Physical Education programme is very well-structured.

All pupils have at least two hours of Games and PE each week. Some of our sports include: football, tag rugby, gymnastics, cricket, hockey, netball, athletics, swimming, and tennis. Pupils from Year 3 to Year 6 compete in local competitions as part of school teams. Our large astroturf pitch is used extensively for matches all year round and our sports field is used for sports such as football, tag rugby, cricket, rounders and athletics.

The curriculum is taught by specialist PE teachers and is designed to offer a comprehensive range of experiences through which pupils are encouraged to develop the personal qualities of commitment, fairness and enthusiasm.

There are a number of after school clubs for children to continue their interest in sport, which range from netball and football clubs to running and cross country. Further extracurricular clubs include karate, gymnastics and dance. Children in Years 3 to 6 swim at Loughton Pool throughout the year, where they are taught by specialist swimming teachers. Our annual swimming gala is a very popular event with parents.

We aim to develop positive attitudes towards sport and encourage our pupils to develop their own initiative, determination and courage whilst stressing the value of exercise and fitness; healthy habits and social cooperation. Oaklands runs many teams, including cross country running, athletics, netball, football, swimming and tag rugby.

Our teams are selected based on pupil achievement and we are proud of our sporting reputation as a school. Where appropriate we also run 'B' teams so that we can give as many pupils as possible the opportunity to represent the school.

We organise many in-house competitions such as cross country running, swimming and athletics, giving every student the experience of competitive sporting events.

Activities include:

- **Gymnastics**
- **Athletics**
- **Cross Country**
- **Running**
- **Tag rugby**
- **Swimming**
- **Football**
- **Netball**
- **Hockey**
- **Basketball**
- **Tennis**
- **Rounders**
- **Fitness circuit**
- **Dance**
- **Cricket**







BEYOND THE CLASSROOM

Extracurricular Activities

We have over 25 extracurricular clubs throughout the term such as Fencing, Choir, Football, Chess, Dance, Speech and Drama, Tennis, Yoga, Art, Rock Band and Cross Country. Pupils are able to join clubs from as young as Upper Kindergarten.

They also have the opportunity to learn one of the many instruments on offer including clarinet, recorder, flute, guitar, piano or violin or join the school orchestra or choir.

Educational Visits

Our younger children enjoy a range of interesting and educational visits such as Hayes Hill Farm, Paradise Wildlife Park and Southend Sealife Centre.

Pupils in Years 3 to 6 are taken on a variety of educational visits to enhance their curriculum. These include local visits such as to the William Morris Gallery and the Elizabethan Hunting Lodge and visits to Central London to the Victoria and Albert Museum, The British Museum, the National Gallery and Hampton Court Palace.

Outward Bound

Year 3 children camp out overnight and undertake team building activities in the Autumn Term. Years 4 and 5 spend time at an outdoor pursuits centre and Year 6 go for a week of adventure at a national residential centre. Years 5 and 6 also visit activity centres as part of their PE curriculum. Year 6 pupils can take part in our biennial ski trip.

Events

We give all pupils many opportunities to participate in sport, art, drama, music, charity work, school council, community events, assemblies, the Oak-Tree Award and more.

There are regular whole school events throughout the year including musical performances, drama showcases, Prize Giving, Science Week, Sports Day, Performing Arts Showcases and the Christmas Carol Service.

We celebrate many different annual events such as Christmas activities, a Fireworks Night event and a visit by the Easter Bunny in Spring. We also enjoy taking part in charitable days throughout the year such as World Book Day and Harvest.



PASTORAL CARE

We believe in developing the whole child, taking into account their individual needs or talents and providing a personalised programme of learning.

Social and Emotional Development

We attach great importance to the acquisition of social skills and encourage respect and consideration for others at all times. This helps children to understand the needs of others. Good manners, respect for others and self-discipline are fundamental aspects of the core values we teach.

At the heart of the Oaklands ethos is the recognition that each child is an individual who deserves a differentiated and more personalised education.

Our excellent team of class teachers is ably supported by experienced support staff who work with different groups of children.

Gifted and Talented

From Upper Kindergarten upwards throughout the school, the Gifted and Talented programme identifies pupils who have a particular flair for a subject and helps them to maximise their full potential.

'High Flyers' who display a particular talent or flair for a subject are given additional time to develop it in a 1:1 or small group learning environment with a specialist.

Topic work, which combines History, Geography, Art and Design Technology, offers opportunities for individual research projects and extended use of computing skills.

Creative talents are also catered for through clubs, music peripatetic lessons, the school orchestra, choir, art competitions and annual dramatic performances.

Sporting talents are encouraged via our broad extracurricular club provision and our entry into local dance, netball, football, swimming and athletic competitions individually or in teams.

Dedicated Support

Our team is able to help personalise each child's education so that focused support may be provided in class as well as in extra lessons. This is given individually in or out of the lesson, in pairs or groups or through extra materials.

We also have access to a large number of independent specialists, such as Speech and Language therapists who are able to offer individual programmes to help children's learning and general development.

Skills for Life

Not only do we pride ourselves on our excellent academic achievement but we embed skills for life in the children in our care. These skills such as resilience, confidence, passion and enthusiasm are some of the most important 'skills for life'. These essential, transferable skills we know we teach well.



GROUND S AND FACILITIES





We are very lucky to have such extensive grounds at Oaklands. The school benefits from sprawling lawns, a large astro turf, an adventure playground, playing fields, woodland areas and exclusive Kindergarten play areas.

During the summer months, the grounds are used for a huge range of events including a fete run by Oaklands Parents' Association and Sports Days. During the annual Speech Day and Prize Giving events, a large marquee is erected on the main field. Pupils use the grounds regularly in lessons, whether for an outdoor classroom day, P.E. or even to hunt for mini-beasts or attend Wild Woods Club.

The car park offers ample parking, with a lit and fenced walkway up to the main school building.

FAQs

How involved are parents in the life of the school?

The OPA (Oaklands Parents' Association) is our active Parents' Association, which is run enthusiastically to raise extra funds that go towards equipment and treats for the children. Our parents organise many fun and varied activities for the children, parents and families that include Christmas parties, the Easter Bunny, a Summer Fete and annual Firework Night.

There are regular newsletters and the website is always updated with information and news. We have a text messaging service and we email letters and news home. We also share our news on our social media accounts.

Will my child be offered a proper lunch?

Our chef specialises in providing healthy, balanced meals to children in independent education. There is a daily choice of a hot main meal with a hot vegetarian alternative. The team also provides a cold buffet, including a wide variety of salads.

A choice of desserts is available daily, together with fresh fruit or yoghurts. Any special dietary needs can be satisfied if requested.

Our staff check that children select sufficient food and eat properly. They will liaise with parents if there are any concerns.

Is my child able to get extra help?

If we identify that a child requires supplementary assistance, they may have extra lessons to help. We have a team of qualified specialists in the Learning Support Department who are able to devise individual learning programmes to ensure that each child progresses according to his/her ability.



How soon do I need to think about senior schools?

There are many opportunities for you as parents to discuss senior school options. Our staff are on hand to discuss any questions you may have at any time. In Year 5 there is a Senior Schools Options Evening with information for parents.

As a dedicated independent prep school our emphasis is on enabling children to join the most appropriate senior school for them when they are 11. We are very experienced at tailoring our education from the very earliest years throughout their time with us to make sure that children learn how to apply themselves academically and mature into confident, well-rounded and well-educated children who are welcomed into both state and independent senior schools.

Teachers work closely with parents throughout the school to ensure that an appropriate senior school is chosen for each child. Excellent results have been achieved with children also gaining a range of academic, sporting and musical awards and scholarships. We maintain good relationships and regular contacts with senior schools, which lead to a smooth transition to the next academic stage.

Do you offer before and after school care?

We have a Breakfast Club from 7.30am until 8.30am each morning and a Teatime Club that runs until 6pm. These are run by Oaklands staff for children from 3 to 11 years.

For Breakfast Club, drinks, breakfast cereals and toast are provided each morning. Children are given a range of activities after breakfast that engage them until the school day begins at 8.40am.

Teatime Club provides sandwiches every afternoon. Homework can be completed in the quiet area and there are a variety of activities on offer.

It is advisable to book into these clubs via the School Office, either on an occasional, regular or daily basis.

How do I know what my child is getting up to in school?

We hold regular parents' meetings for discussion on how your child is progressing, and many opportunities for parents to be invited into school for informal meetings with staff and other parents. We also hold informal coffee mornings for each year group and reports are sent out at the end of the year.

We post daily updates of what pupils are up to at the school on social media and the school website, and have a monthly newsletter filled with news of exciting events, trips and classroom activities.

Do Early Years children have a 'key person'?

Yes. There is regular contact with your child's key person. Before your child joins Kindergarten or Reception, you will be invited into school to meet staff including the EYFS Coordinator and your child's key person. In addition they will spend some time with you finding out more about your child and giving you time to share information with us.

Once your son or daughter begins school, there are daily opportunities to meet and talk to the key person and other members of the team.





Admissions

Choosing a school for your child is one of the most important decisions you may face as parents, and at Oaklands we're here to help you get it right first time around.

The admissions procedures differ depending on the age of your child. However, the process usually begins with a visit to the school, either on one of our Open Events or on a pre-arranged, personal tour.

Registration

Parents are invited to tour the School and meet with the Headmistress to discuss their child/ren. In order to secure a place on our waiting list parents will need to complete the Online Registration Form which requires a non-refundable deposit payment of £50.

A place on the waiting list does not guarantee admission. The School must feel reasonably sure that it will be able to educate and develop the prospective pupil to the best of his/her potential and in line with the general standards achieved by the pupil's peers.

Entry into Early Years (ages 2½ to 5)

At all points of entry in the Early Years, the School sets its own tests as appropriate through extensive informal observations that take place by one or more members of staff during an extended Taster Session.

Taster Sessions will last for between 40 and 70 minutes and will mainly consist of informal play-based activities observed by members of the Early Years team.

Offers will be sent if children successfully pass our entrance criteria.

Entry into Years 1 to 5 (ages 5 to 9)

At all points of entry from Year 1 to Year 5, the School sets its own tests as appropriate through informal classroom observations and formal academic assessments.

Children will be invited to spend a long morning in school at a mutually convenient time. The morning will include formal academic assessments in English, Maths and Reasoning, with additional informal classroom observations.

Offers will be sent if children successfully pass our entrance criteria.

The School is looking for pupils who show potential as well as those who are academically able.

In all cases there will be a general interview to explore the candidate's interests, attitude to school, personal qualities, ability to contribute to the school community, support available at home and any relevant connection with the School.

Our Open Events are held in October and March and are a great way to get an insight into school life and see the school in action.

"Recent results are excellent, particularly the proportion of children exceeding the expected levels of development in reading and writing."

ISI Inspection Report



LEARN MORE ABOUT OAKLANDS SCHOOL

When choosing a school for your child there are many factors to take into account specific to you and your child's needs. Therefore it is wise that parents get to know the school well before making the final decision. At Oaklands there are many opportunities to do just this.

COME AND VISIT US

Open Days in March and October

Personal tours can be arranged at a time to suit you.

NUMBER: 020 8508 3517

EMAIL: info@oaklandsschool.co.uk

See our website for all latest information including:

- Newsletters
- Headmistress's Letters
- Fees
- Entrance procedures
- Leavers Destinations
- Admissions policy
- Open Days
- Staff list and how to contact us
- A wide range of weekly clubs and activities
- Parents' Association events and fundraising

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