



## Headteacher Report to Parents 2020 - 2021

### **Why?**

*We believe in making our children world class learners developing in them a confidence and thirst for knowledge enabling them to realise their talents and create their future.*

### **How?**

*By tenaciously challenging and developing our own understanding of learning as well as providing for them a 'Disney Land' curriculum with a fantastic range of curricular and extra-curricular opportunities which engage enrich and excite them as learners*



## Governing Body 2021 - 2022

Governors have a vital role to play in ensuring our school provides the best possible education for our children.

They are responsible for:

1. Setting the strategic direction for the School
2. Holding the Headteacher to account for the educational performance of the children
3. Holding the Headteacher to account for the financial effectiveness of the School and ensuring funds are well spent

<b>CHAIR and Local Authority Governor</b>	<b>Category</b>	<b>Original Start Date</b>	<b>Current Start Date</b>	<b>Term of office end date</b>
Mr Andrew Felton	Co opted	01.09.2011	21.10.2019	21.10.2021
<b>PARENT</b>				
Mrs Cathy Thompson	Parent		05.10.2020	5.10.2024
Mr Dom Rust	Parent	20.10.2015	21.10.2019	21.10.2023
Mr Simon Awbery	Parent		21.10.2019	20.10.2023
<b>HEADTEACHER</b>				
Mr P Fisher	Headteacher	11.04.2002	02.10.2013	
<b>STAFF</b>				
Miss B Homer	Staff	02.10.2015	21.10.2019	21.10.2023
<b>CO-OPTED</b>				
Mrs Sue Wilson – Vice chair and <b>New appointment Governor</b>	Co-opted	19.10.2009	21.10.2019	21.10.2021
Mrs S Misra	Co-opted	07.12.2019	07.12.2019	07.12.2021
Mrs Nicola Lewis <b>SEN /PP / DDA</b>	Co-opted	07.12.2017	21.10.2019	21.10.2021
Ms Kate Lincoln / <b>E Safety / Safeguarding / Looked After Children / PREVENT</b>	Co - opted	25.02.2019	25.02.2019	25.02.2023

## **A Message from the Co—Chairs**

We are blessed with a highly skilled and committed team of Governors who have a simple mission and that is to work to improve the education of our children. School Governors are responsible for the strategic direction of their school, for holding the Leadership team to account, for overseeing the financial performance of the school.

The Full Governing Board meets three times a year, however we have 3 committees, which look at different aspects in more detail. Each committee meets up to five times a year and report directly to the Full Governing Board on their discussions and recommendations. There are 3 main committees, each with its own Chair:

Leadership and Management

Curriculum and Standards

Health and Safety

The chairs of these committees meet regularly to challenge and support one another.

We are all very proud and honoured to serve as Governors at Oakridge and we all take a strong interest in our school, providing both challenge and support to Mr Fisher, his senior leadership team and staff. We firmly believe that a key reason for the success of Oakridge is the excellent staff and leadership we have, who are all hardworking and dedicated to the excellent education of our children, ensuring they all receive a Disneyland curriculum that challenges them to reach for the stars every day.

As a Governing Board we always ask the question 'How are we better today than we were at our last inspection in 2014?'

- The school continues to be categorised as outstanding by the Local Authority
- We are delighted that the school continues to build upon its success with standards across the school remaining very high and the quality of teaching and learning continuing to improve.
- There is a clear curriculum intent statement which links directly to our school vision. The school curriculum is broad and ambitious. It is joined up and ensures clear progression with key 'sticky knowledge' planned for in each year group in each subject.
- Middle leaders have a very good knowledge of their subject.
- Enrichment activities continue to be well thought out and engage and enrich the children's educational experience. Even during these covid times there have still been over 40 enrichment activities for our children.
- The investment in professional development for all staff ensures that staff continue to grow and develop.

We firmly believe that a key reason for the success of Oakridge is the excellent staff and leadership we have, who are all hardworking and dedicated to the providing the highest standard of education for our children and ensuring they all receive a Disneyland curriculum that challenges them to reach for the stars every day. Even during lockdown we ensured that as full a curriculum as possible was delivered to our children and many examples from across the school have been shared with us at our meetings.

## **Actions and achievements for the academic year 20 - 21**

### **Health and Safety**

This year we have secured a further £52,000 grant to replace the school roof as well as secured funding to replace the hot water boilers within school. We have also replaced the Yr 5 windows, put new sinks in the reception classroom as well as ensured that the building is kept to a high standard. Further work planned includes:-

- New car parking spaces for staff and visitors
- Extending the playground area for KS1
- Enhancing the KS2 playground markings
- Painting classrooms and corridors
- New carpet tiles for the school corridor and two classrooms
- Turf area of the school field

The above work will be carried out during the summer holidays.

### **Policies**

- Covid RA and action plan have ensured the school has remained open with high attendance.
- All H and S policies have been reviewed and approved.
- Safeguarding SCR check completed on three occasions.

### **Leadership and Management**

A further challenge facing us as Governors is the increased financial pressures put upon our school budget. The Leadership and Management Committee which has met on five occasions this year, ensuring that the resources that the school receives are used efficiently and effectively. The three year budgetary plan which has been developed ensures that the schools vision can continue to be delivered effectively with a focus on delivering the best possible outcomes for our children. This ensures that we are able to employ Mrs Holland to deliver high quality art and D and T and Mr Malkin to deliver high quality PE as well as providing our children with a wide range of sporting opportunities. We also ensure that as a school we invest in the best resources for our children ensuring that they add value to our children's learning. An example this year is our investment in 'maths no problem' which has built further upon our 'Singapore' approach to maths teaching.

Being one of the lowest funded schools in one of the lowest funded Local Authorities the schools results and the curriculum provision demonstrate excellent value for money. The best resource that we have at Oakridge is our staff, as they have the biggest influence upon children's learning.

Financial Benchmarking (2021/22)	Oakridge	Stafford Pri- mary School Average	National Pri- mary School Average	National Aver- age for all schools
Income Per Pupil - Grant	£4,161	£4,361	£4,582	£5,101

Compared to the national average, Oakridge receives £940 less per pupil than the national average for all schools in England, which equates to over £200, 000 less in the school budget compared to many other schools across England. Compared to the national primary school average Oakridge receives £421 less which equates to over £103,000. This has been compounded even further with the impact of covid which has seen an £80 000 reduction in income from our wraparound care provision.

By running our own School Direct program to develop new teachers, as well as delivering a range of well-respected teacher training courses (NPQH, NPQML and SL), we have generated £30 000 additional income this year from the courses that we have delivered. With budgets being significantly cut, this externally generated income ensures that we can maintain staffing levels and provide our children with an outstanding education.

- The school continues to partner the Alliance of Leading Learning in delivering the NPQML and NPQH qualifications
- The continuing successful implementation of the Schools Direct programme.
- Continued support for the development of staff which has seen the school invest in the Visible Learning Program which has enhanced all staffs knowledge of leaning.
- All Policies reviewed and approved.
- Budget reviewed and approved, ensuring viability for next 3 years.
- Plan of action agreed given downturn in wraparound usage.
- Agreement to purchase dishwasher for kitchen.
- Effective use of Covid catch up funding (for example Maths no problem, PIRA and additional TA hours).

## **Curriculum and Standards**

Some of the schools achievements over the last year include:

- All policies have been reviewed and approved
- Remote learning policy has resulted in overwhelmingly positive feedback from parents re lockdown learning
- The full curriculum was delivered even during lockdown
- Yrs 1,2,3,4,5 have visited Laches Wood
- Y6 have been on a residential visit to Stanley Head
- Highest percentage take up of PE clubs in schools history
- Standards have remained consistently high
- The school has not stood still and subject leaders have all developed their subjects still further.
- The school vision of a 'Disneyland Curriculum' is continuing to being lived as can be seen by the number of enrichment activities that are provided to enhance the school curriculum even during lockdown.
- New RSE/ PSHE curriculum has been successfully implemented with voiced over power points provided for all parents.

### **Curriculum Intent:**

Our vision states that we believe in making our children world-class learners by providing a 'Disney Land' curriculum with a fantastic range of opportunities which engage, enrich and excite them as learners. Our curriculum therefore must provide the tools for children to be able to learn by allowing them to master basic skills such as reading, writing and understanding number. However our curriculum provides a purpose and relevance for learning, offering opportunities which instigate a love of learning, encouraging creative and critical thinking. High expectations and levels of challenge are present in all that we do, engendering an intrinsic sense of personal pride in achievement amongst our children.

Through our values, there is a focus on developing children's moral, spiritual, social and cultural understanding, as well as developing personal attributes such as resilience, empathy and honesty.

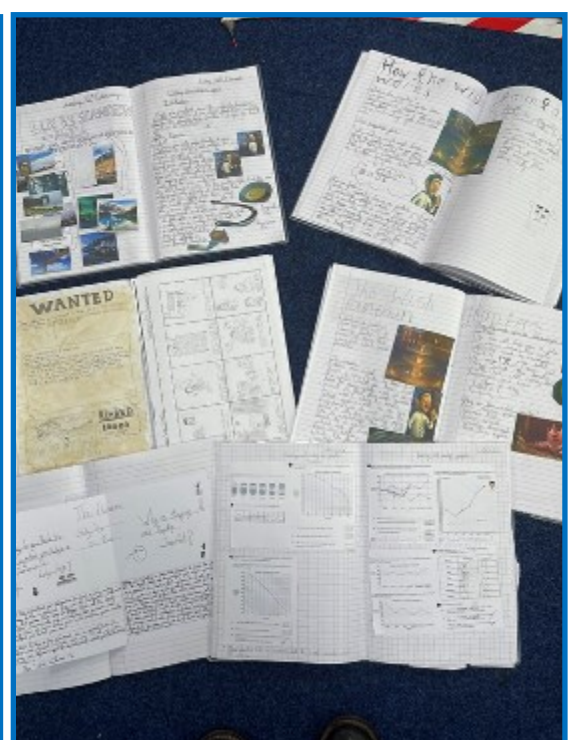
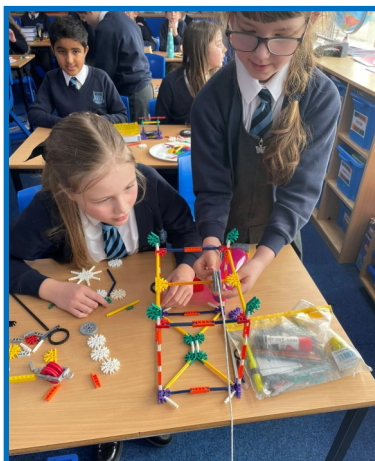
We aim to deliver a connected curriculum which ensures that children make progress throughout their learning journey, making links between areas of learning and ultimately between themselves and the world around them. We ensure that we explore concepts deeply and make every effort to give children the language and vocabulary to engage with learning, within the classroom and beyond. We enrich the curriculum with first-hand experiences such as trips, visits or speakers with the intention of providing knowledge and skills, as well as building aspirations for future life.

Through the learning experiences provided, we aim for our children to be able to think independently, appreciate the world around them and ultimately live happy and successful lives, making a positive contribution to their society, to be well prepared for life in modern Britain.



## Examples of Curriculum Implementation

With restrictions in place we were still determined to deliver the curriculum to its fullest extent ensuring the delivery of our school vision.





## Examples of Curriculum Implementation



### Children learning a musical instrument

Woodwind— 6 children (6 girls, 0 boys)

Violin—8 children (6 girls, 2 boys)

Brass—3 children (2 boys, 1 girl)

Guitar—9 children (5 boys, 4 girls)

Keyboard—31 children ( 15



## PE and Sport 2020-2021—Gold Standard Schools Games Award Four Years Running



We are delighted to announce that Oakridge Primary School has been awarded the 'Gold Standard Mark' for the fifth year running for our sport provision. The School Games Mark is a Government led awards scheme launched in 2012 to reward schools for their commitment to the development of competition across their school and into the community. Schools in England are assessed across bronze, silver and gold levels so to achieve the gold standard is an accolade that we are all very proud of. The Award rewards schools for their commitment to the development of competition across their school and in the community. Points are awarded for participation, engagement in sporting activity, entering competitive events as well as the leadership activities. We are also delighted that we have received the Sporting Virtual Award – for schools who:

- Have had pupils regularly entering School Games Virtual Competitions or
- Encouraged pupils to stay active at home while not in school



### After-school sports clubs so far in 2020/21

- 16 different after-school clubs have been offered this academic year.
- 10 different sports/activities offered.
- Each child from Year 1 to 6 has had the opportunity to participate in at least 1 after-school club.
- Equal opportunities for boys & girls
- We have offered after-school clubs every single week we have been open to the whole school since the start of the Pandemic

### Y6 Boys Football Champions



## Sporting Clubs

- |                               |             |
|-------------------------------|-------------|
| • Y5/6 football               | 42 children |
| • Y3/4 football               | 34 children |
| • Girls football              | 23 children |
| • Y5 and 6 Cross Country      | 23 children |
| • Y3 and 4 Cross Country      | 40 children |
| • Gymnastics                  | 22 children |
| • KS2 Tag Rugby               | 22 children |
| • Netball                     | 18 children |
| • Year 1&2 Multi-Skills Games | 37 children |
| • Year 5&6 Gaelic Football    | 40 children |
| • Year 3&4 Cricket            | 39 children |
| • Year 5&6 Cricket            | 40 children |
| • Yr 3 and 4 tennis           | 30 children |
| • Yr 5 and 6 tennis           | 41 children |





## Sporting Competitions

Winners - Yr 5 and 6 Stafford schools 8 a side tournament

Winners – Y5 boys S and D Summer 6 a side competition

Winners – Y6 boys S and D Summer 6 a side competition

Winners – Y6 girls S and D Summer 6 a side competition

Runners up – Y4 boys S and D Summer 6 a side competition

## Sporting Representation

9 Yr 6 represented the school in the rounders tournament

7 Yr 2 represented the school in Yr 2 football match

8 Yr 4 girls represented the school in a Yr 4 football match

12 Yr 4 children represented the school in the Yr 4 football tournament

12 Yr 5 children represented the school in the Yr 5 football tournament

15 Yr 6 children represented the school in the Yr 6 girls football tournament

14 Yr 6 children represented the school in the Yr 6 boys football tournament

16 Yr4 children represented the school in the cricket tournament

**In 20 21 73 (52% of KS2) different children represented the school in sporting competitions**



## Enrichment activities and educational visits 2020 – 2021

Each year we have between 60 and 70 enrichment activities in school. These help deliver our school vision by providing the children with a *'Disney Land curriculum with a fantastic range of curricular and extra curricular opportunities which engage enrich and excite them as learners.'*



In 2020–2021, because of the lockdown, we were only able to hold 43 enrichment activities in school which have helped to make the children's learning real and give our children the 'cultural capital' that we believe is important. These are an integral part of our school curriculum and the support we have received from the vast majority of parents has been fantastic. Once again, members of staff have given up their weekends and holidays to visit locations, before the trip takes place to ensure that the children's learning experience is maximized. the vast majority of parents has been fantastic.



As we run our Knowledge and Understanding Curriculum on a two year rolling program, we have built on the success of enrichment visits that took place last year such as a trip to the National Space Centre in Reception to Years 3 and 4 two day visit to Stone Henge. Across Staffordshire and nationally, the number of trips and visits is in decline here at Oakridge they have increased!



## Going forward

Henry Morris, an educational visionary and one of the greatest figures in education of the twentieth century, once said that Schools are 'The training school for the art of living'. A statement that is still as important today as it was when Morris first said it in the 1920's. From September we will be introducing 'The Oakridge Way' at school. This will neatly set out what we want our children to be like, both in and out of school and continue to be like when they move onto High School.



The roots of the tree focus on how we want our children to be as people and the canopy focuses on the learning qualities that we develop in school. The 'Oakridge Way' will also be at the heart of our behaviour policy, with house points awarded to children for demonstrating how they are living 'The Oakridge Way' each day in school. We are also introducing 'positive notes' which staff will send home with children when they see a child is consistently displaying these values in school. These won't replace the Golden Book assemblies but will be another layer of positive reinforcement and a way that we can communicate these successes to you. We are all very excited about introducing this fully from September along with the new house system.

## Safeguarding our Children

It is everyone's duty to safeguard all our children. At Oakridge, Mr Fisher is the Designated Safeguarding Lead and Miss Homer and Mrs Evans are the Deputy Leads, however all staff and Governors are trained in safeguarding and receive annual updates. If you have any concerns about a child's welfare, then you can contact a member of staff at school or any of the school Governors by telephoning school or through the email address above.

Further advice on Safeguarding matters can also be obtained from:

First Response Team including LADO advice: 0800 1313126.

And finally.....

This has without doubt been the most demanding of years for everyone. However the kindness that has been shown by so many parents has been at times overwhelming and on behalf of everyone at Oakridge I would like to say a heartfelt thank you.

Thank you so much for taking time out of your busy day to call us. It more than made up for him not being able to properly join in yesterday's Teams meeting. Once again, we feel so lucky and privileged to be part of such an amazing school, and appreciate absolutely everything you and your wonderful staff are doing for the home schooled children at this testing time.

We just wanted to say how incredibly grateful we are for everything you are doing for our children in navigating these extremely challenging times. We have been so impressed by the school's resilience and care for its pupils and staff in what must be the most demanding year of your careers. We've always known that Oakridge goes the extra mile for all pupils, but this past year has illustrated this beyond doubt. Thank you to everyone who contributes to making it the wonderful school that it is.

Dear Ofsted,

I am writing to commend the extraordinary efforts of my children's primary school in transitioning to home schooling this week. Despite the short notice, they have provided places for key workers' children and delivered an exceptional standard of home learning. Considering the pressure on teachers this week to move to remote learning at short notice, the standard of home learning resources we have been provided with has been remarkable. We couldn't have asked for more.

We wanted to say thank you for the excellent communication from the school as you are working with no or very little notice following instructions from central Government. We think the school has responded brilliantly again and activated the home learning superbly so we just wanted to say thank you for all your efforts.

We wanted to pass our thanks on to you and your amazing staff who have taken the children on a school residential for three days to Standon Bowers. They have done so much and he has had a fantastic time. To be fair he hasn't stopped talking about it since he got home! The children have definitely made some amazing memories.

I just wanted to say a huge Thank You to all the staff involved in the Year 2 and 3 camp night. As we walked home it was non stop talking about their night. They have had a wonderful time with lots of lovely activities. I heard all the laughter and games from my garden. Thank you so much for all your hard work to make this happen for the children despite COVID !

As we approach the end of our journey I wanted to say that I truly believe Oakridge has played a very important part in our lives. All your education has paved not only solid but also colourful stones for my daughter to continue her wonderful life upon! Thank you we are truly grateful. Keep reaching for the stars.