



Ofsted outstanding International Baccalaureate World School Success after success for Oaks Primary Academy, Maidstone

At Oaks Primary Academy in Maidstone (part of Leigh Academies Trust), we pride ourselves on delivering a rich, highly aspirational, inclusive education that is big, bold and brave and sees all pupils succeed. In the most recently published data, the academy has regularly been in the top 5% of high-performing Kent primaries and its key stage two results are categorised as “Well Above Average” by the government. All of this has been achieved through a carefully crafted curriculum with the Early Years Foundation Stage, the National Curriculum and the International Baccalaureate Primary Years Programme (IB PYP) at its heart.

We have the privilege every day of seeing a world class education being embraced and enhanced by pupils with excellent behaviours and attitudes. Now, all of this has been validated at the highest levels in the space of 5 days. In September, we had a verification visit from the International Baccalaureate Organisation and a section 5 Ofsted inspection.

It's official: Oaks Primary Academy is an authorised IB World School for the PYP and Ofsted outstanding.

We will let the reports do the talking:

IB PYP verification visit 16th and 17th September 2021

Some of the IB comments and commendations:

Students are able to communicate a meaningful purpose behind their learning and connect it to responsible action in conversations.

The PYP is implemented in an inclusive manner, so that all students in all year levels in the school are engaged with the PYP to the fullest extent possible.

The schools generous use of a variety of resources, particularly the library and school-provided Chromebooks to access global issues and diverse perspectives.

Teachers have incorporated differentiation for student learning needs and styles into collaborative planning and reflection.

Classroom observations show students engaged in inquiry where students explore, wonder and question, collect data and report findings, and research and seek information

Displays and samples of assessed student work confirm that teachers are using a range and variety of teaching and learning strategies.

Parents described the understanding and respect shown to them on a daily basis.

The school has built a stimulating learning environment based on understanding and respect throughout the school community.

Ofsted 21st and 22nd September 2021

Oaks Primary Academy is a welcoming and caring school. Pupils feel happy and safe here. Pupils have an infectious appetite for learning and relish every opportunity to become more knowledgeable. This is because learning is placed firmly at the heart of the school. Expectations of pupils are high.

They are fully invested in all parts of school life

Pupils' positive behaviour in classrooms and around the school creates a highly engaging learning environment.

Every bit of the day is a chance for pupils to learn. This is achieved through a highly ambitious and well-thought-out curriculum.

Pupils receive feedback about learning through pupil-teacher discussions known as 'conferencing'. Pupils spoken with during the inspection said it is a helpful way to improve their work. This leads to pupils having an impressive knowledge and deep understanding of many important themes and issues.

Pupils with special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND) and disadvantaged pupils are identified quickly and are given the support they need to excel. This means that their learning is of the highest quality and they thrive in this inclusive environment

The personal development of children is exceptional. Staff prepare pupils well for the next stage of their education as well as to take their place in the world

Leaders and governors are deeply committed to providing a high-quality education for pupils. Staff professional development and workload are a priority. Staff who responded to our confidential staff survey said that leaders care about their development and consider their workload carefully.

Together with the effective support provided by Leigh Academies Trust, this has led to rapid improvements in recent years.

And this is just the beginning...

If you would like to join us on our incredible journey of learning, get in touch via contactus@oaksprimaryacademy or 01622 755960. We look forward to meeting you.

About us

Leigh Academies Trust is a non-profit making charitable company, based in Strood, Medway. The Trust exists to support and assist schools to build upon their existing strengths and to help them achieve educational improvements in order to positively shape the lives of our students and the communities we serve. We now operate 31 academies along the South Thames Corridor, structured into 4 clusters. Our clusters contain all phases of education, from nursery to post-16. Each one has a passionate commitment to inclusion. The Trust was formed in 2008 with the linking of the Leigh Technology Academy and Longfield Academy under one governing body. It now encompasses 20,000 students between the ages of 2 and 19 and we employ over 2,500 staff across the South East. For more information go to <http://www.leighacademiestrust.org.uk/>