Oakwood Junior School

from little acorns mighty oaks grow

School Prospectus

2025/2026

*Rated **GOOD** by Ofsted February 2024*

Welcome.....

It is with great pleasure that I welcome you, on behalf of the children, staff and governors, to Oakwood Junior School.

Oakwood Junior School aims to provide a warm, welcoming and supportive environment in which our pupils enjoy working and learning together. We care about the health and well-being of every child and want them to feel safe and secure so that they are able to take risks, are not afraid to make mistakes and can embrace learning.

We want the children to be happy and excited about coming to school to learn and to develop their knowledge, skills and understanding across a wide curriculum.

Our passion for education means that we inspire your children to develop a love of learning that they can carry with them for the rest of their lives.

Our school motto 'Every child is a learner and can achieve', reflects our high aspirations and ambitions for children and our drive and determination to ensure that all pupils and adults in the school reach their full potential. We are not complacent by any means and are continually looking for ways in which we can further improve the school.

At Oakwood Juniors, the staff and governors work in partnership with parents and carers. We value the contributions of a child's whole family and are committed to building strong links with the community. We know that the more parents are engaged in their child's learning the greater the achievement and we are delighted to talk with you about any aspect of your child's learning and how you can support them at home.

As a school, we pride ourselves on being open and approachable and would encourage you to take the opportunity to visit us where we will be happy to welcome you.

Thank you for your interest in Oakwood Juniors.

- MRS ATWAL – HEADTEACHER

Values and Ethos

We realise the uniqueness of everyone and we take pride in the fact that we get to know pupils as individuals. We believe that our school motto 'Every child is a learner and can achieve', along with our school values, underpins the ethos of our school and recognises that we are an inclusive community of individuals at different starting points.

Respect: We value all members of our school community. We will treat every child as an individual and recognise that they are all starting their school life with different needs, cultures and attitudes.

Positivity: Whatever the starting point of each child we will help them to grow and develop their skills academically and socially across a broad curriculum within a safe environment.

Resilient*:* As they progress through school pupils will become resilient and independent learners who are able to self- regulate their behaviour so that they can maximise opportunities for learning.

Kindness: We will aim to instil our school values and British Values throughout our curriculum so that our children show empathy and have a strong awareness of the role they play and how their acts can impact their local and wider school community.

Aspiration: Working in partnership with parents/carers each child will make progress to achieve the highest level of understanding and skill of which they are capable.

Safety: We aim to install a sense of safety within every pupil this includes online safety as well as keeping safe at home and in school and on roads too. Our school is a safe haven for our pupils

Our School Day

A typical day will follow this pattern:

8.40am - 8.55am	Gates are open for parents/carers to drop off children
8.45am	Year group doors open for children to enter school
8.45am - 8.55am	Morning registration
9.00am - 10.15am	Learning session 1
10.15 - 10.30am	Assembly
10.30am - 10.50am	Break
10.50am - 12.20pm	Learning session 2
12.00pm/12.30pm - 1.10pm	Lunch time
1.10pm - 1.15pm	Afternoon registration
1.15pm - 3.15pm	Afternoon session
3.15pm	School closes

Children who arrive after the gates have closed need to enter school via the gates on Holbrook Road and come to Reception .

Children who arrive at school after 9.15am will receive a late mark.

If your child is absent from school, please telephone the school office on 01332 571231 and choose option 2 to report the absence.

Our school is open for 32.5 hours per week in total for a typical week of compulsory school attendance.

Key Staff

Mrs Atwal
Headteacher

Mrs Fray
Deputy Headteacher
and SENCO

Mrs Stone
Assistant Headteacher

Mrs Hughes
Assistant Headteacher

School Business
Manager

Mr Stone
Pastoral Lead

Points of contact in the school office are

Mrs Whitehead, Miss McDonnell and Miss Parker

Safeguarding

SAFEGUARDING STATEMENT

Oakwood Junior School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children. We follow the Derby City Safeguarding Children's Board procedures. Sometimes we may need to share information and work in partnership with other agencies, when there are concerns about a child's welfare. We will ensure that concerns about our pupils are discussed with parents/carers first, unless we have reason to believe that such a move would be contrary to the child's welfare.

Oakwood Junior School has a dedicated safeguarding team of three members of staff to ensure that the children are kept as safe as possible. Should you have any concerns about the welfare, health or safety of a child please contact one of the team. We meet as a team weekly to review any concerns and to ensure that our systems are robust.

- Our Designated Safeguarding Lead is Mrs Atwal, Head teacher.
- Our Deputy Designated Safeguarding Leads are
    - Mrs Fray - Deputy Head teacher/SENCO
    - Mrs Stone – Assistant Head teacher
    - Mrs Hughes – Assistant Head teacher
- Our Pastoral Safeguarding Lead is Mr Stone.
- Our Safeguarding governor is Mr Wood.
- Our Safeguarding Policy is available in the Policies section of the website

Out of hours EMERGENCY Safeguarding and during SCHOOL CLOSURE

If you have safeguarding concerns about a child out of school hours - school holidays and weekends, you can phone Derby City Social Care directly on 01332 641172.

You can also contact the Designated Safeguarding Lead and Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead.

Designated Safeguarding Lead - Mrs CT Atwal - head@oakwoodj.odysseyct.org.uk

Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead - Mrs N Fray - n.fray@oakwoodj.odysseyct.org.uk

Local Child Protection and Safeguarding procedures and all contact information including making an online referral can be found at the Derby and Derbyshire Safeguarding Children's Partnership

SEND – Special Educational Needs

SEND at Oakwood Junior School

What kinds of Special Educational Needs are provided for at Oakwood Junior School?

We provide for children with a variety of additional needs and we are able to support children with difficulties in the following areas:

- **Cognition and Learning** - This area includes general difficulties with learning, profound and multiple learning difficulties (PMLD) and specific learning difficulties (SpLD) such as dyslexia (difficulties with reading and spelling) and dyscalculia (difficulties with number and calculation).
- **Communication and Interaction** - This area includes speech, language and communication needs (SLCN), which could mean difficulties with speech production, the understanding of language, the expression of language or a combination of all three. It also includes difficulties with the social use of language and pupils with autism spectrum condition (ASC).
- **Physical and Sensory** - This area includes sensory impairments, such as visual impairments (VI) and hearing impairments (HI), as well as physical disabilities such as cerebral palsy.
- **Social, Emotional and Mental Health** - This area includes children who are struggling with emotional regulation, social skills or who are dealing with a mental health difficulty. Some children may have a diagnosed disorder such as Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD) or Attention Deficit Disorder (ADD) which can effect how they behave.

At Oakwood Junior School we recognise that children may have needs in more than one area and every child is different; often the area of need given to a particular child is their 'prime' area and we always look at the individual child when thinking about how best to support them.

Policies and Procedures

We aim to identify children's needs early in their school career. To do this, class teachers monitor children's progress and identify those making less than expected progress given their age and individual circumstances.

When deciding whether to make special educational provision, a meeting will be arranged between the Special Educational Needs Coordinator (SENCO), the class teacher and the parent to consider all the information gathered, including:

- The child's areas of strength and difficulties
- The views of the parent/carer and child
- Any additional support or provision the child needs
- Any referrals to outside professionals that could provide support

Where a pupil is identified as having SEND, the school will seek to remove barriers to learning and put SEND provision in place. The support will take the form of a four-part cycle, known as the graduated approach:

- **ASSESS**: an analysis of need will be carried out by all concerned, including outside agencies
- **PLAN**: an appropriate plan will be agreed by all concerned
- **DO**: agreed support and intervention will be delivered
- **REVIEW**: the effectiveness of the intervention/support will be reviewed regularly

School Uniform

We want our children to look smart whilst in school and feel that uniform gives them a sense of belonging to our community.

Our uniform consists of the following items:

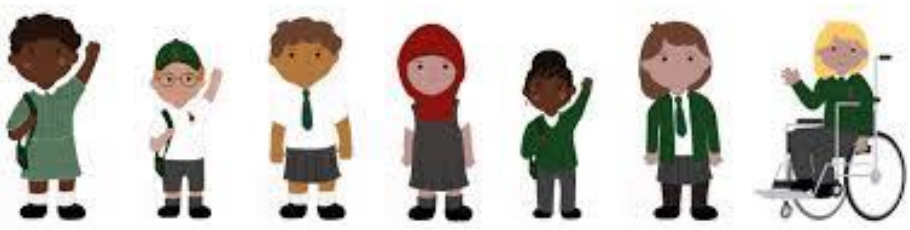
MAIN UNIFORM	***PE KITS***
White blouse, shirt or polo shirt	White T-shirt
Bottle green cardigan, jumper or sweat shirt	Black/navy shorts, jogging trousers or leggings
Black or grey skirt, trousers or dress	Black/navy hooded jacket or jumper
White or black socks or black tights	White or Black socks
Black school shoes (Flat)	Black pumps or trainers

Children can also wear a non-compulsory school tie with a stripe of colour for their school house. The house names and colours are as follows

Red – Rolls Royce
Blue – Joseph Wright
Yellow – Ellen MacArthur
Green – Florence Nightingale

It is not compulsory to wear uniform with the schools logo, plain green jumpers and cardigans can be purchased at very affordable prices in most supermarkets. If you do wish to purchase uniform with logos, you can purchase these from **Uniform Direct**, Babbington Lane, Derby.

All clothing especially coats and sweatshirts should be clearly marked with your child's name.



Home & School Communication

Here at Oakwood Junior School we believe communication between home and school is key. With this in mind we have a number of ways of communicating with parents and carers to ensure information is shared effectively. Please see below the school apps you will be asked to join when your child joins us.

Arbor is our school MIS system which securely stores your childs information. Arbor is also a system we use for trips and school meals payments. All parents/carers are able to download the app to their phone.

Class Dojo is our main communication app, We will send our information about events, trips and whats going on in school. Class dojo also allows you to have direct communication with your child's class teacher, SENCO, Deputy Head and Head Teacher. You will also see photos of events taking place in your child's class and year groups as well as the whole school. Children will also be awarded Dojo Points which are rewarded at set milestones.

We are now on twitter and will be sharing pictures from within school and some of the things the children get up to. You can follow our main school page using the following handle @Oakwood_Juniors and our dedicated sports page can be followed here @oakwoodjderby

Please visit our websites below

https://oakwoodjuniorschool.co.uk/

https://www.odysseyct.org.uk/

Attendance

We are sure that like us, you as parents and carers realise the importance of attendance and punctuality. At Oakwood we continue to work hard to try to raise attendance levels and to reduce instances of lateness. Our target for whole school attendance is 96%

Attendance facts:

- All schools must report their termly attendance percentages to the Local Authority
- If your child is not in school s/he does not reach his/her learning potential
- If your child's attendance falls below 95% they will be monitored by the Pastoral Team and if there is no improvements, then n more absences will be authorised without evidence
- Parents have a legal responsibility to ensure that their child receives a full time education
- Parents can be issued with fixed penalty notices (fines) for failing to ensure that their child attends school regularly - this include taking children out of school on holiday
- The local authority has the power to prosecute parents in the magistrate's court for the offence of failing to ensure their child attend school regularly.
- If your child arrives after 9:15am we are required to mark them as having unauthorised absence for the whole morning - arrivin after 9:15am once in a week brings their attendance down to 90%
- If your child is late, we may not be able to order a meal of your child's choice as the kitchen has a 'deadline' that has to be adhere to so that correct numbers of meals are produced.

Children who do not attend school regularly **are more likely to:**

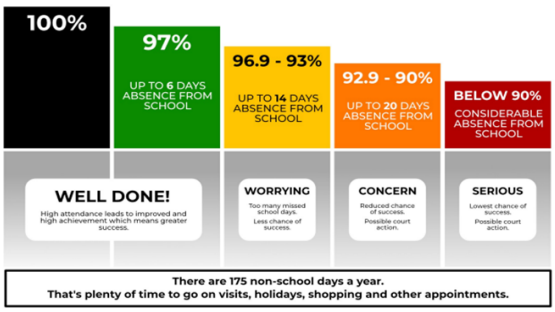
- Fall behind in their school work
- Find it difficult to make and keep friends
- Learn poor attendance habits that follow through into secondary school
- Be unhappy at school

Poor punctuality can also disadvantage children in many ways:

- Being frequently late for school adds up to lost learning - for example arriving 15 minutes late every day is the same as being absent for 2 weeks a year
- When children are late they find it harder to settle into the routine of the day
- When children arrive late they often miss key messages and teaching which continues to have an effect on their learning for the rest of the lesson or day
- Poor punctuality disrupts the class and can be embarrassing for the child

How can you help your child attend school regularly?

- Talk to your child about school
- Take a positive interest in your child's work, including homework
- Make sure your child understands why school is important
- Show your child that you are interested in what they have done at school
- Get everything ready for school the night before
- Arrange appointments before or after school or during the school holidays
- Bring your child to school for the time before or after an appointment wherever possible
- Take holidays during school holidays and not during term time
- Set your alarm and your child's alarm clock- see who can beat the clock!
- Only grant days at home for **genuine** illness (you will know!)
- If your child is slightly under the weather, still send them to school- children can start feeling better as the day goes, and if the school is worried they will call
- Children can attend school if they are taking medicines - speak to the school office. **We can give children certain prescribed medications** with a signed consent form.



School Well Being Dog

At Oakwood Junior School we understand that the well-being of the children is paramount to us all. The lockdowns, closures of schools and Covid-19 has been difficult for everyone and for these reasons we are continually evaluating and improving our mental health support so that the children are able to leave our care with resilience, positivity, aspirations, respect and kindness. To support these attributes and as part of our ongoing provision for wellbeing and mental health we have decided to invest in a Well-Being Dog for the children.

I would like to introduce you to Ron, an English springer spaniel who is a much-loved member of the Oakwood Junior School Team. Ron has joined us all the way from York where he lived with his brothers and sisters on a farm. He now spends his days in school and goes home for a well-deserved rest in the evenings with Mrs Fray. Ron loves to play and earn treats, visit the children in their classrooms, have gentle rubs, and petting under his chin.

What are the benefits of a Well-Being school dog for children (and staff)?

- Calming effect
- Reduction of stress and anxiety
- Improved self-esteem
- Fostering a sense of responsibility
- Motivation
- Encouraging respect for animals and all living things
- Respect and nurture life
- Building confidence in all areas of the curriculum
- Improving attendance

"A dog is the only thing on earth that loves you more than you love yourself."
Josh Billings (Author)

Interaction with our well-being dog will always be optional for the children. If you DO NOT want your child to have any contact, or your child has an allergy to dogs, then please let the school know

School Meals

Our delicious school meals are prepared on site by our on-site cooks provided by Mellors. They produce menus that are on a three weekly cycle, the menus are regularly reviewed and updated to ensure variety and nutrition.

School lunches can be booked on a day to day basis; you can do this by booking it the day before on school money or your child can book this in class on the day. It is not necessary to order them for the whole week in advance. Lunches are currently priced at **£2.90 per day payable on the day or in advance**.

If your child is or you think they may be entitled to free school meals please contact the school office for an application form and return to school. We currently use Entrust for our free school meal checking that can give you an instant decision for entitlement.

Example Menu

WEEK 1	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
MAIN DISH	Macaroni cheese	Mediterranean chicken wrap with savoury rice	Roast beef, with Yorkshire pudding, roast potatoes & gravy	Pork meatballs with wholemeal pasta	Fish fingers or salmon fingers with chunky chips
VEGETARIAN MAIN DISH	Vegetarian korma with chicken style pieces and 50/50 rice	Cheese pinwheels with half a jacket potato	Quorn™ fillet with roast potatoes & gravy	BBQ Quorn™ with 50/50 rice	Falafel & salad pitta with chunky chips
ACCOMPANIMENTS	Seasonal vegetables Salad bar	Seasonal vegetables Salad bar	Seasonal vegetables Salad bar	Seasonal vegetables Salad bar	Seasonal vegetables Salad bar
DESSERTS	Flapjack	Lemon drizzle cake	Apple & oat cookie	Chocolate muffin	Upside down cheesecake
FRESH FRUIT OR YOGHURT	Fresh fruit *or* Yoghurt	Fresh fruit *or* Yoghurt	Fresh fruit *or* Yoghurt	Fresh fruit *or* Yoghurt	Fresh fruit *or* Yoghurt
JACKET POTATO AND SANDWICH SELECTION	Jacket potato and sandwich selection	Jacket potato and sandwich selection	Jacket potato and sandwich selection	Jacket potato and sandwich selection	Jacket potato and sandwich selection

Our School in Photos