



Oaklands

SCHOOLS GROUP



Prospectus 2022-2023

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Sixth Form/Osterley & Crane
Classes



Agnes Gretschel
Assistant Head
Severe Learning Difficulties &
Syon Classes



Jim Marshall
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Earl Collins
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Autism & Kew Classes



Barry New
PMLD & Richmond
Classes

Family Support Team



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Family Support Worker
High Oaks



Georgina Davies
Family Support Worker
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Reception Team



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High Oaks & New Oaks



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Receptionist/Administrator
High Oaks & New Oaks



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Chair of Governors

Anne Clinton
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Vacancy
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Parent Governor

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Kamran Asghar
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Harry Thomas
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Chad LeVel
Co-opted Governor



Introduction

Oaklands School is a London Borough of Hounslow Special School operating on two sites. We provide highly individualised education to meet the needs of pupils who have severe learning difficulties, profound and multiple learning difficulties or whose learning is significantly affected by autism. We currently have provision in our primary department from children from nursery age to year 3, and the full 11-19 secondary age range. **New Oaks has a separate prospectus.**

High Oaks, our secondary school is divided into different zones based on the needs of the pupils.

Syon department provides for children with complex needs

Kew department provides for autistic pupils

Richmond department provides for pupils with Profound and Multiple Learning Difficulties.

The decision of which department will best meet each pupil's needs will be made with parents and may change during a young person's career at the school.

We also have **Sixth Form** provision for students in our **Osterley and Crane** classes which caters for students with a wide range of needs and which provides education for young people who need more time to develop skills before they are ready to access either college or other adult environments.

We have developed an exciting curriculum in line with the National Curriculum which reflects the needs and interests of our pupils. We celebrate a range of festivals, as part of our RE syllabus, and also offer a variety of curriculum enhancement activities such as World Book Day, Modern Foreign Language Day, a week of exciting activities to encourage the students to increase physical activity in our aptly named "Let's Get Active" week and an annual Performing Arts week. Further opportunities to get active are offered to students through Swimming, Cycling, Dance, Tennis, Boccia, Football and Athletics.



Oaklands School Aims

- To provide each individual with a safe, stimulating, challenging, supportive learning environment.
 - To promote the spiritual, moral, social, cultural, cognitive and physical development of all.
 - To create a community in which each individual is valued and enabled to play a full part in school life.
 - To enable each individual to maximise their potential to become confident learners.
 - To develop effective communication skills.
 - To help students to stay safe and learn to protect and to assert themselves.
 - To ensure all students have access to a relevant broad and balanced curriculum designed to meet their personalised learning needs.
 - To support parents/families through multi-agency work with all stakeholders.
 - To encourage families to work in partnership with professionals, to the benefit of our students, and the work of the school.
 - To provide inclusion opportunities at other schools and colleges.
 - To prepare students for smooth transitions pre and post school.
 - To promote healthy lifestyle choices to aid well-being.
- To follow Every Disabled Child Matters guidelines and facilitate equal opportunities for all.



Syon Department

Students with Severe Learning Difficulties are based in a class group by needs and age, with 9 pupils in each class. Each class has a class teacher and between 2 and 4 support staff.

In both key stages the students follow the National Curriculum. In key stage 3 familiar subjects such as English, Maths, Science, ICT, Personal and Social Education, Humanities, Music, Food and Design Technology, Performing Arts, P.E and Swimming will all be found on our students' timetables.

As the students move into key stage 4 Vocational courses such as "Preparation for Work" are introduced.

Physiotherapy, Occupational Therapy, Speech and Language Therapy are commissioned to the school by Hounslow. Students in both Key Stages also benefit from specialist facilities such as our 2 Sensory rooms, Sports Hall, Swimming pool, Library, Gym, Art room, Design Technology room, Food Technology room and our fully equipped Music suite.

Richmond Department

Our Richmond classes are specifically for pupils who have Profound and Multiple Learning Difficulties.

For these pupils much of the curriculum is accessed through the bespoke Oaklands Sensory Curriculum. This uses a multi-sensory approach which encourages the use of resources which stimulate the senses - seeing, hearing, feeling, tasting and smelling. Much of the intent of the curriculum is to build engagement and a better understanding of the world around us: by working towards increasing pupil realisation, anticipation, persistence and initiation.

Another approach which is widely used is Intensive Interaction - a method of teaching the pre-speech fundamentals of communication. Pupils have access to a variety of specialist lessons, which include Music for all. Most pupils also benefit from using a warm water pool.

Many students in Richmond department need access to physiotherapy, Occupational therapy and Speech and Language therapy which are commissioned for the school by Hounslow.



Kew Department

Many pupils at Oaklands who have a diagnosis of autism and also have severe learning difficulties do thrive within our complex needs department and benefit from the social opportunities presented by being educated alongside their non-autistic peers. Some young people benefit more from being a member of an autistic specific class group in Kew Department where their education can be more individually tailored to their autistic specific needs. For this reason, Oaklands has developed a separate department for pupils who have autism. The department provides education to pupils with a range of ability and whose learning is severely affected by their autism.

Class size in Kew is 8 pupils per group, supported by a teacher, teaching assistant and two learning support assistants. Some students need a higher staff ratio to support behaviour.

Pupils have access to the full range of facilities in the school which include; a sensory room, an art room, OT room, gym, sports facilities, design technology room, science room, food technology room and outdoor play facilities. Particular use is made of TEACCH, PECs and Intensive Interaction as well as Sensory Integration programmes designed by therapists commissioned by Hounslow. All autistic pupils have Speech and Language Therapy and Occupational Therapy.

The number of pupils whose learning is severely affected by autism is increasing every year.

We are proud to have been accredited by the National Autistic Society for the quality of our provision for autistic pupils meeting their advance level standards.





Osterley and Crane; The Sixth Form

Oaklands School provides Sixth Form education for students with a range of learning difficulties. Our students are taught in a combination of age and needs streamed groups. Each student has a class tutor and between 1 and 3 support staff according to need. Students have access to a 3-year curriculum including Maths, English, ICT, Life Skills, Vocational Education, Art, PSHEC, Performing Arts and Sport and Leisure.

All students have access to work related learning via a work experience programme supported by job coaches.

Students work on personalised Foundation Learning programmes and qualifications will be offered in Functional Skills in Maths, English and ICT, Independent Living and Personal Progress.



The Oaklands Curriculum

The Oaklands Curriculum is divided into four Curriculum areas;

Communication

Cognitive Skills

Physical and sensory skills

Skills for independence

The curriculum is delivered in key stages 3 and 4 through National Curriculum subjects in Complex Needs and Autistic Classrooms and through a more individual timetabled approach in PMLD classrooms.

Modules are taught on a termly basis.

English (including listening, speaking, reading, and writing)

Mathematics (including time, money, name, data handling)

Information and Communication Technology (ICT)

Science

Personal, Social and Health Education & Citizenship (PSHEC)

Food Technology

Design Technology

Art

Music/Performing Arts

PE/Motor Development/Swimming/MOVE mobility training.

Humanities

Work Related Skills

Community Visits which include Road Safety Awareness and travel training

Modern Foreign Language is delivered through a theme day annually.

Qualifications offered

Key stage 4

Laser Work Based Learning



Our Post 16 Curriculum covers

Literacy
Numeracy
ICT

Swimming

Games/PE/Sports e.g.: football/yoga/athletics/sailing.

College Link Programme (one day a week for one term in each academic year at either Richmond or West Thames Colleges for those intending to progress to College aged 19).

Vocational Programme (including catering, woodwork, retail, office skills, horticulture, craft)

Work experience

Performing Arts

Art

Life Skills, Community and Travel Training

Personal Social Health Education & Citizenship

Qualifications in sixth form

Functional skills (Maths, English and ICT)

Laser Independent Living and Personal Progress awards

Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme



Homeworking at Oaklands

All Families are all provided with work for pupils to do at home.

- For most pupils the use of their communication techniques is essential homework; use of PECS and/or Makaton signing.
- For many pupils undertaking their physiotherapy and/or Occupational Therapy programmes at home is essential homework.
- Pupils' Individual Education programmes contain their termly targets with details of activities which should be carried out at home.
- Our website contains an extensive area providing ideas and activities for pupils and families to do at home.
- Some pupils may be sent more traditional homework if it is appropriate for them at their level of independence and cognitive development.

Facilities

Students at Oaklands benefit from a range of facilities both on and offsite.

On site we have wonderful new facilities which include a Sensory room, Sensory Gardens, two swimming pools, an Immersive Sensory Theatre, specialist art and design technology rooms, a food technology room, a library, a running and cycle track, a multi-use games area, sports hall, a horticulture area, indoor and outdoor gyms, a shop, a café, as well as fully equipped music and ICT Suites.

Our classes all have individual group rooms where students can work on a one to one with the class staff.

Community Education

We have four school minibuses and three people carriers which we use to take students to use a wide range of community facilities. Oaklands is also very well placed in relation to public transport being close to two Lindon Underground stations, Isleworth British Rail station and Hounslow bus garage as well as many different bus routes. It is also particularly important that pupils learn to travel safely as pedestrians in preparation for their adult lives. All classes in our secondary school have community education on their weekly timetable, and will be working from their starting point to develop skills to



travel to and use a range of community based facilities including shops, leisure facilities and workplaces.

Multi-professional Support

At present the quantity of therapy commissioned to Oaklands has been identified as inadequate. We are waiting for the Local Authority to inform us of their plan to increase so that identified needs can be met.

We have the following particularly specialist staff;

2 Makaton trainers
3 Team Teach trainers
3 Manual Handling trainers
Accredited TEACCH trainer

Healthcare and nursing

Healthcare services are provided to school by Hounslow and Richmond Healthcare Trust. Their staff are employed by the Trust, and deployed to work at Oaklands to ensure that pupil's medical needs are met. It is the responsibility of parents and families to keep the school updated with any changes to medication as you should not assume that the health service will inform us.



Approaches used at Oaklands School

Our students all have an individual learning plan, which identifies the approaches they need. At Oaklands students currently benefit from a range of interventions and approaches.

Music Therapy

Speech and Language Therapy

Physiotherapy

Occupational Therapy

Intensive interaction

Makaton

Picture Exchange Communication System (PECs)

TEACCH

Team-Teach

Sensory Integration

Attention Autism

Handwriting and Keyboarding without Tears

Training in Systematic Instruction (on work placement)

If you would like any further information on any of the approaches, please look at our website www.oaklands.hounslow.sch.uk



Admissions procedures

Applications to Oaklands School are made through Hounslow's admissions panel. Hounslow's SEN department send applications to Oaklands. We then assess our ability to meet the young person's needs as laid out in the young person's Education Healthcare Plan. If needs can be met a place will be offered with final placement decisions made at a Hounslow Placement Panel meeting. The panel process is new in 2020. We understand panels will be held half termly.

Pupils placed at Oaklands for their primary placement will automatically transition to Oaklands secondary provision in year 7. Other pupils come to Oaklands School in year 7 from other schools. All students in the secondary school will remain for sixth form unless the school ceases to be appropriate if a young person's needs change. A small number of young people also join us in year 12 in order to attend our sixth form after having attended a different school for their secondary education, where there is space. Occasionally pupils transfer to Oaklands when they move to the area or if another school they have been attending feels they would benefit from our provision.

We welcome visits from parents who would like to see the school and discuss their child's needs. Please contact the school or see our website for the dates of our prospective parent's events.

At Oaklands School we seek to meet the needs of the majority of pupils whose learning needs are complex and severe.

The capacity of the primary school is 8 pupils per year group in nursery or reception, 10 places per year group from year 1 to year 6, High Oaks has a capacity of a maximum of 21 pupils per year group in secondary of whom a maximum of 4 need provision in Richmond department and a maximum of 8 need provision in Kew department in each year group. Occasionally we are not able to offer a place. E.g. if the year group is full or if the young person has challenging behaviour which presents a health and safety risk to other pupils.

When a place has been offered at Oaklands.

Once a place has been allocated at the school we will discuss what arrangements we need to make so that the transition to Oaklands is as smooth as possible. We will ask for details about personal care and, in some cases will need to write a medical care plan before the young person can begin attending. If a young person is dependent on equipment for physiotherapy, positioning or seating this needs to be provided before the young person can begin attending school.

Useful Information

Transport

The school does not arrange school transport. Parents will need to apply to Hounslow for school transport separately, or to their own local authority. The Local Authority transport policy is on the Hounslow website.

Parents not eligible for transport will bring their own children to school.

Please note that parents need to bring and collect children at the correct time.

School Lunches

We have a school kitchen in which school hot lunches are prepared fresh on site. There are two choices daily. Special diets can be catered for.

Parents may choose to send packed lunches.

Our parents pay for student's lunches using Parent Pay.

They are able to log on from home to check how many lunches their child has had and make payment.

Parents can link their Parent Pay accounts with their other children who attend different schools and manage all school lunches from one account.



Medication

Detailed arrangements can be found in the school policy of Medication & Pupils Health. We can support you in filling out all of the medical care plan forms if required.

Personal Care

If your young person has personal care needs (toileting, feeding etc.) we will need to discuss these with you, and fill out a personal care plan for your young person. We can support you with this if required.

Family support

Oaklands runs a support service for families which includes;

Family support workers on both sites
Support during the admissions process
Support with issues you experience at home
Training and information events for parents

Home/school communication



Teachers and support staff communicate with parents direct via a home/school book. This ensures parents are kept up to date with school activities.

Parents Evenings

Every Autumn and Summer Term there is a Parents Consultation Evening. These events run from 3.30pm-6.30pm. During this time Parents can discuss their child's education with the Class Teacher and meet specialist subject teachers.

Newsletter

Our Oaklands Newsletter is produced every half term.

School Uniform.

All pupils should wear school uniform to school. The uniform consists of a school t shirt or sweatshirt worn with dark trousers or skirt. T shirts sweatshirts and a School fleece can be bought from school. High Oaks uniform is purple.

Sixth form students are not expected to wear uniform; however, hoodies are available for any students who want to wear a school item.

Voluntary contributions

Parents are asked to make a termly voluntary contribution to cover the cost of morning snacks, drinks and ingredients used in Food Technology lessons. Parents may prefer to send in their own snack and ingredients for Food Technology.

For any other information please look at our website www.oaklands.hounslow.sch.uk