



New Oaks

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Welcome to New Oaks

New Oaks Primary School is the primary department of Oaklands School; a 2-19 provision for young people who have severe learning difficulties. New Oaks primary school opened for the first time in 2018 and was temporarily based at our Gresham Road, Hounslow site while our primary building was renovated.

I am delighted that the New Oaks Primary building in Woodlands Road, Isleworth opened in September 2020. At this site, we also opened our Little Oaks unit for children of nursery and reception age.

At Oaklands, we are proud of the standard of education we are able to offer. New Oaks was awarded an 'Outstanding' grade by Ofsted in its first year of operation, and were also part of achieving the 'Advanced level' accreditation award by the National Autistic Society for the second time in 2022. We aim to meet the individual needs of all of our pupils so that they can all make the best progress possible at each stage of their education.

Mairead Standring

Head Teacher; Oaklands School

Introduction

Oaklands School is a London Borough of Hounslow Special School operating on two sites and caters for students aged 2 – 19 years. We provide high quality 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.

At New Oaks, we currently have provision for students of nursery to Y5. We also have our ‘Little Oaks’ unit for nursery and reception aged students. In September 2023, we opened our final classes and will then have provision for students up to Year 6. All students participate in an engaging and enriching curriculum that is designed in line with the National Curriculum and reflects the needs and interests of our pupils. Throughout the week, students take part in a varied timetable consisting of learning opportunities in and out of the class. In New Oaks, a greater focus is placed on students learning through play and having access to excellent outdoor learning opportunities.

Additionally, students participate in curriculum enhancement activities such as World Book Day, Modern Foreign Language Day and a week of exciting activities to encourage the students to increase physical activity in our aptly named “Let’s Get Active” week. During the year, students also access the community through outings so that they can practice the skills that they have learnt in school in real life situations.

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

Our Senior Leadership Team



Mairead Standring
Head Teacher



Maryam Asghar
Head of School
New Oaks



Asimina Mourelatou
Assistant Head



Jim Marshall
Assistant Head

Our Reception & Admin Team



Mary Madigan
Receptionist/ Administrator
New Oaks

Rita Puri
Receptionist/ Administrator
New Oaks

Sajel Darbar
Admin Manager
High Oaks & New Oaks

Family Support at New Oaks



Georgina Davies
Family Support Worker
New Oaks

Oaklands Governing Board

Dr Melvyn Tatters
Chair of Governors

Mairead Standing
Headteacher

Harry Thomas
Vice Chair of Governors

Abhey Prabhakar
Parent Governor

Talia Wilmot
Staff Governor

Vacancy
Parent Governor

Florence Hitchcock
Co-opted Governor

Vacancy
Co-opted Governor

Dr Aman Verma
Co-opted Governor

Ranujan Ravindran
Co-opted Governor

Alok Dubey
Co-opted Governor

Kamran Asghar
Co-opted Governor

Rebecca Valet-Mathon
Co-opted Governor

Chad LeVel
Co-opted Governor

The Curriculum

EYFS:

In Little Oaks, learning is delivered by following the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) Framework. Within the EYFS, there are seven areas of learning. These are considered either prime or specific areas. The prime areas of learning are:

- **Personal, Social and Emotional Development:** This area helps to shape children's social skills and develops respect and an understanding of their different feelings.
- **Physical Development:** This area focuses on supporting children to be physically active, develop fine and gross motor skills. It also focuses on making healthy food choices and developing independence in personal care.
- **Communication and Language:** Providing an environment for young children to express themselves and speak and listen in a range of situations allows them to develop their language and communication skills.

The specific areas of learning are:

- **Literacy:** It is important for children to discover phonemic awareness – the ability to hear and identify different words and sounds, and also to start reading and writing.
- **Maths:** Children need to be guided in developing skills with numbers and calculations, as well as being able to describe shapes, spaces, and measures.
- **Expressive Arts and Design:** the chance to express themselves and learn new things.
- **Understanding the World:** This involves children understanding similarities between themselves and others, making sense of things by observing and exploring everything from the places they spend time to the technology and other things that they use.

Although students with Profound and Multiple Learning Difficulties experience all seven areas of learning, learning is focused on the three prime areas and is delivered through a multi-sensory approach.

Key Stage 1 and 2

From Year 1 to Year 6, learning is provided to the students by adapting the National Curriculum to match their abilities whilst challenging them to achieve their potential. Learning is delivered by drawing links to half termly topics. Subjects that are covered include:

- English
- Maths
- Topic
- PE including swimming
- Music
- Food Technology

Learning for subjects such as PSHE, Computing and Art are included into the students' weekly timetable.

For students with Profound and Multiple Learning Difficulties, learning continues to be delivered through multi-sensory approaches. The students do not engage in specific subjects but learning focuses on the following areas:

- Communication
- Cognition
- Physical and sensory
- Independence

Learning Approaches

At Oaklands, all students currently benefit from a range of interventions and approaches that are embedded into classroom practice. These include but are not limited to:

- TEACCH
- Makaton
- Picture Exchange Communication System (PECS)
- Intensive interaction
- Team Teach
- Core boards

For PMLD students, the following approaches are also used to support learning:

- TASSELS
- Story Massage
- Body signing
- TacPac
- Sensory Integration

If you would like any further information on any of the approaches, please look at our website www.oaklands.hounslow.sch.uk. *If there are any other approaches or interventions that are not mentioned above but would be beneficial to your child's development, we would be happy to discuss these with you.*

The specialist staff supporting the students and staff at New Oaks include:

- Makaton trainer
- Team teach trainers
- Manual Handling trainers
- Accredited TEACCH trainer
- Sports coaching
- Swim coach

Homeworking

All families are provided with work for students to do at home through Pupils' Individual Education programmes (IEPs). These contain their termly targets with details of activities and are shared with parents at the start of each term. Furthermore, each class teacher provides a curriculum coverage for each topic so families can see what learning is taking place in school and also has suggested activities for them to try at home. Supporting students to become more independent with their communication is essential homework for all students. For some of our students, undertaking their physiotherapy and/or Occupational Therapy programmes at home is also essential homework.

Some pupils may be sent more traditional homework if it is appropriate for them at their level of independence and cognitive development. Families can also access our website which has an extensive area providing ideas and activities for pupils and families to do at home.

Multi-professional Support

At New Oaks, we are fortunate to have a multi-professional team that also support the students. The school has an in school team of Speech and Language Therapists and Occupational Therapists that are assigned to each class and provide support to help students regulate and communicate effectively.

We also receive support from an NHS commissioned physiotherapist and liaise regularly with Educational Psychologists and medical professionals.

Health care and nursing

Health care services are provided to school by Hounslow and Richmond Healthcare Trust. Their staff are employed by North West London Trust and are deployed to work at Oaklands to ensure that students' medical needs are met. It is the responsibility of each student's parents and carers to keep the school updated with any changes to their child's health and updates to medication. There should not be an assumption that the health service will inform the school.

Facilities

We are proud of the different facilities that we have on site to support our students' learning and development. These include two sensory rooms, a ball pool, a swimming pool, an art and Food technology room, a library. We also have an outdoor gym, sports pitch and an indoor multi-purpose hall too.

Our EYFS and KS1 classes have their individual playgrounds and our classrooms also have individual group rooms which can be adapted for multiple uses to support student progress such as being used for 1:1 work, sensory regulation and small group activities.

At New Oaks, there is one minibus that can be used for outings and all of our drivers are MiDAS trained to transport wheelchair users too.



Admissions Procedure

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.

Pupils placed at Oaklands for their primary placement will automatically transition to Oaklands secondary provision in Year 7. 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 families 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 and 10 places per year group from year 1 to year 6.

Occasionally, we are unable to offer a place. This may be 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, we will discuss what arrangements to ensure as smooth a transition as possible to Oaklands. We will ask for details about personal care and, in some cases, a medical care plan will need to be written 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

Opening and Closing times:

	Mondays – Thursdays	Fridays
Little Oaks: Nursery and Reception	Start: 9am Finish: 3pm	Start: 9am Finish: 2:30pm
New Oaks: Y1-Y6	Start: 9:15am Finish: 3pm	Start: 9:15am Finish: 2:30pm

School Transport

School transport is available to some families where it is not possible for them to be able to pick up and drop off the child due to other commitments e.g. siblings in other schools that need to be collected. Please note that the school is not responsible for arranging school transport nor do we have any influence on the decisions made. Parents/carers will need to apply to Hounslow for school transport separately, or to their own local authority. The application usually takes about 2 weeks to process and the more details that can be included in the application, the more information transport will have to help make their decision.

Further information regarding transport can be found by doing an online search for 'Hounslow school travel assistance' or at:

https://www.hounslow.gov.uk/info/20025/schools_and_colleges/1085/school_travel_assistance

Parents bringing their own children to school

At Woodlands Road, there is limited parking available for students in Year 1 to Year 6 on the residential roads nearby. For students attending Little Oaks Nursery, five parking spaces are available at a first come; first serve basis at the beginning and end of each day. Within the school, there is a strict one-way system for vehicles so parents/carers will need to ensure that they are on time to avoid becoming stuck behind school transport.

School Lunches

We have a school kitchen in which food will arrive semi prepared and will be cooked to serve by the kitchen assistant. Students in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 are entitled to a Universal free school meal. For parents of students in Nursery and Year 3 – Year 6, a hot meal can be purchased daily using ParentPay. The daily cost of a school lunch is £3 which is equivalent to £15 per week. Parents/carers can log on from home to check how many lunches their child has had and make payment. ParentPay accounts can be linked for siblings that attend different schools and families can manage all school lunches from one account. Parents who are not happy to pay online are issued with a paypoint card which can be topped up at a participating store (these can be found online).

Alternatively, parents may choose to send their child with a packed lunch, however, please note that the school is nut free. Also, please ensure that the packed lunch is a well-balanced meal and emphasises the healthy choices that are promoted in school. Cakes may be sent occasionally, however, please refrain from including biscuits, crisps, chocolates and fizzy drinks.

Medication

If a child routinely requires medication throughout the day, a 'Medical Care Plan' will need to be completed with details of the medication and dosage. This can be obtained from their GP or consultant.

For other medication that is required as a one-off, a medical consent form will need to be completed to authorise staff to administer the medication.

In all instances, the medication needs to be sent in the correct packaging with a pharmaceutical label clearly identifying the name of the medication, dosage and expiry date.

Personal Care

If a child needs support with managing their personal care needs (toileting, feeding etc.), we will discuss these with you as part of the admission process. We work with the families to support the child with toilet training as well as gaining independence in other personal care skills e.g. practicing feeding themselves, getting dressed and undressed etc.

Family support

At New Oaks, Georgina Davies; Family Support Worker is available to provide support to families on a range of issues and concerns. These may include:

- Implementing strategies at home
- Signposting to services in the community
- Arranging parent workshops on numerous topics
- Support New Oaks' students and their families by preparing them to manage unfamiliar experiences e.g. attending medical appointments, going abroad on holiday, flying on a plane etc.'

Georgina's working hours are: Mondays and Tuesdays 9am – 2pm and Wednesdays from 9am – 1pm. On Mondays and Tuesdays, the first hour is a drop in session for families to come in without an appointment.

Parent/school communication

Our main contact method between school staff and families is via the home/school contact books. We recommend that all families read them regularly as we will send home relevant information via the contact books. In addition, we would highly encourage families to write back in the books to feedback about their child's time at home especially if there were any difficulties that may be a cause of distress for the child at school e.g. sleep problems at night or not eating breakfast etc.

During the Autumn and Summer term, there is a Parents Consultation Evening. These events run from 2:30pm – 5:30pm on a Friday. During this time, parents are welcomed to discuss their child's education with the class teacher and meet specialist subject teachers.

Each half term, a New Oaks Newsletter will be sent home with information about students' achievements.

An Annual Review is also held each year for every child to discuss their progress in the year and to consider the next best steps including reviewing whether New Oaks continues to be the most suitable provision for the child.

Parents/carers are welcomed to contact the school if they have any questions or concerns and an appropriate staff member will get back to them as soon as possible.

School Uniform:

All students in Nursery to Year 6 are expected to wear a school uniform. The uniform consists of a green polo neck shirt, a green sweatshirt or a cardigan. These can be worn with dark trousers or skirt. We would recommend that all students wear comfortable shoes that allow them to be able to run around. Uniform can be purchased from the school and a form to order the uniform is included in the admission pack.

Every week, the students will need their swimming kit for their swimming sessions. This will consist of a swimming costume, a towel and swimming nappies, if needed.

Students are very likely to engage in messy activities throughout the day. Staff will encourage students to wear an apron, however, we would highly recommend sending in spare clothes that they can use for messy activities.

We kindly request that, please label all clothing items sent into school with the child's name so that they are not misplaced accidentally.

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 have a look at our website: www.oaklands.hounslow.sch.uk