

# **Oak Field School and Sports College**

## **SEN Information Report**

**Written February 2015**

**Reviewed September 2016**

**To be reviewed September 2018**

### **What kinds of Special Educational Needs does Oak Field School make provision for?**

Oak Field School is a Community day special school, maintained by Nottingham City Council, for children and young people aged 3-19 years.

Oak Field School provides for needs of children and young people who have severe, profound and complex learning and physical difficulties and disabilities. Certain pupils may also have associated needs in the areas of emotional/social and communication and interaction such as autistic spectrum disorder and/or speech and language difficulties. These are always in addition to the primary learning need. In addition pupils may have sensory difficulties. The admission arrangements for our pupils can be found on our website within the admission policy.

### **How are pupils identified and assessed?**

All pupils/students will have a statement of special educational needs or, an Education Health and Care Plan. The latter will eventually replace statements altogether. New pupils will have engaged in the new process. These are reviewed annually. Pupils' learning is under constant review to ensure appropriate progress is achieved.

The school works with other agencies to ensure a holistic approach to the pupil's learning

Some pupils may be on an assessment placement whilst the LA decide the correct placement. The School works closely with the LA who determine placements of pupils.

### **What is the provision for pupils at Oak Field School and how is it evaluated?**

The School has three phases, namely, Foundation, Early Years and KS1. 7-14 and 14-19. Within these phases appropriate provision is made for pupils according to need and ability.

Our aim is to ensure that all pupils access the very best in educational opportunities, taking their rightful place within their community. We wish to see the school at the very heart of learning within the local and City community. As a Sports College we work closely with a range of partners to ensure that health, fitness and leisure play a vital role not only in the school but in the community we serve.

We want our pupils to be ambitious, to have a sense that they can achieve and to challenge others pre-conceptions. Above all we want them to feel safe, confident and ready to take their place in the world. The school is keen that the pupils have a voice in their community, which is respected and listened to.

Oak Field School and Sports College is committed to the advancement of inclusive education for all its pupils, through the development of active and creative minds. It supports a broad, balanced, engaging and rich curriculum in core and foundation subjects, such as liberal arts, humanities, physical education and the development of functional and life skills, including Work Related Learning.

Oak Field promotes respect for diversity, promoting our pupils as global citizens. We encourage a sense of compassion and understanding of others, and a deep respect for human worth and dignity. We recognise and respect every member of the school community's ethnicity, cultural and religious values and sexual orientation. We stress the importance of personal development of each child and young person, with reference to

their learning, social emotional, physical, spiritual and moral education.

The School strives to be at the very heart of life within the City, providing a rich diet of opportunities. There are very active links with both local Universities from which our pupils benefit from the very latest in research. We wish to harness the very latest in technologies which will enhance the skills and learning of the young people. With your support we can make a difference to young lives.

### **Information on how the Provision is Evaluated**

The School is inspected by OFSTED. Since the School was opened in 2009 there have been two OFSTED inspections in 2011 and 2014. Both rated the school as **Outstanding**

OFSTED inspectors rate Oak Field School as [Outstanding](#) in 2014:

“Students behave excellently and feel very safe in the supportive environment of this school.”

“Teaching is outstanding because staff have high aspirations for all the students.”

“Leaders and managers, including governors have an extremely accurate understanding of the school.”

The School maintains an on-going self-evaluation of its progress in line with the OFSTED criteria. Stakeholders feed into this process and it is regularly reviewed by Governors and SLT.

The school has a School Improvement Partner, Joan Locke who makes termly visits to challenge the school on progress and to set the Head Teacher's Performance Management targets.

The School is part of school partnership, COBBB, which involves four other similar schools. There are termly meetings and a sharing and moderation of data.

The School benchmarks itself against schools of a similar type.

The school surveys stakeholders such as parents to canvass views on the progress of pupils.

## **Information about the expertise and training of staff**

At Oak Field School all staff are committed to providing a high standard of education for all pupils. Training for all staff is on-going in whatever role they play in the education of the pupils. Staff have developed particular skills and knowledge to support the education of individual pupils.

There are working groups to look at the development of education for those pupils with Complex Learning Difficulties and Disabilities (CLDD), Severe Learning Difficulties (SLD) and Communication. The School is a member of the Redhill Teaching Alliance and works closely with both local universities to promote training and education of staff. There is active engagement in research and development of new educational strategies for working with the pupils.

There are enhanced staff levels in classes to ensure that pupils receive appropriate support for individual need. There are single subject teachers in the music, art and PE. Support for learning is also provided by colleagues in other disciplines such as health are enhanced so that pupils are usually taught in classes of up to 10 with a teacher and at least one level 3 teaching assistant and an appropriate number of additional teaching assistants to meet the needs of the class group.

## **Information about how equipment and facilities support the children and young people**

As a purpose built School Oak Field has a wide range of facilities to support the learning of pupils. It is fully accessible for wheelchair users. A lift to the first floor provides ideal training for wheelchair users in the use of lifts. Similarly the broad staircase provides ideal opportunities for those who need to practice using stairs.

There is a community café, run by students, a training flat, hydro therapy pool, soft play room and multi-gym

For those parents who might be thinking of Oak Field as a possible placement, there is a warm welcome to visit.

In what ways does the school engage with parents and involve them in the education of their child?

We encourage all parents to engage with the school. There is a full time Family Support Worker who works closely with parents. She will arrange a wide range of activities with parents and provides support when needed. She acts as a link to other services. There are many ways in which the school engages with parents

- Preliminary visits to school Information on website
- Introductory meetings
- Daily Home/School Diaries
- Telephone conversations
- Parent Evenings
- Annual Review meeting and reports
- Parent workshops and training
- Coffee mornings
- Parental Representation on Governing Body
- Parent involvement in changes in school through informal and formal consultations

### **How the school consults children and young people at the school and involves them in their education.**

Oak Field School values and respects the views of the children and young people. The school promotes a range of alternative means of communication and for some pupils ensures that appropriate advocacy is in place.

Pupils are encourage in lesson time to reflect on their learning.

Each Phase in the school has a School Council. Members are elected by fellow pupils. These give an opportunity for the pupils to voice their views and suggestions.

The annual review process of statements of SEN and EHC Plans includes the views of pupils. A pupil-centred approach encourages the involvement of pupils.

Pupils are encouraged to speak at University courses and at conferences at home and abroad.

The NICER group includes pupils in the work of University researchers, to ensure that the research is relevant and pertinent to the needs of people with disabilities.

### **The arrangements made by the governing body for dealing with complaints from parents/carers of pupils/students in relation to Oak Field School.**

The Governing Body encourages parents to resolve issues with the school and SLT in the first instance. If this is not possible or the parent is still unsatisfied, the Chair of Governors, Sarah Bustard can be approached. [admin@oakfield.nottingham.sch.uk](mailto:admin@oakfield.nottingham.sch.uk) She will then arrange to hear the complaint and resolve the issue.

### **How the governing body of Oak Field School involves others - including health, social services, the local authority and voluntary organisations, in meeting the needs of pupils and their families.**

There is a range of staff who work at the school. The School employs teachers, teaching assistants, care assistants, midday assistants, office staff and sports staff. The School is a PFI School so the day to day maintenance and cleaning is managed by Carillion. The IT Services are managed by Civica and the school contracts to with them of a part time technician. Health Staff are employed by Nottinghamshire County Health and commissioned by NHS Nottingham City Clinical Commissioning Group. Many of these staff are based full time

The School is contracted to provide outreach for pupils in mainstream schools with physical disabilities and those with complex needs, identified by the LA.

Educational Psychologists are provided by the Local Authority as a staff from the Sensory Team.

There are regular meetings between the different staff to ensure consistency of approach and

Transport to school is organised by the Local Authority and transport staff are employed by the different transport companies.

Social workers may be allocated by the Disabled Children's Team. They will work with families on a range of services including Respite care.

The school's arrangements for supporting pupils in transferring between phases of education or in preparing for adulthood.

All transitions are well planned for through-out school as children and students move from class to class and phase to phase. Parents/guardians always have the opportunity to meet the new teacher and class staff.

Students are supported in planning for their transition from school to adult life. Staff from Futures (previously Connexions) and the Transition Team work with pupils in school to get to know them and to advise both students and parents/guardians on what is available after they have left Oak Field School

### **Information on the City of Nottingham's local offer**

This can be found at [www.nottinghamcity.gov.uk/localoffer](http://www.nottinghamcity.gov.uk/localoffer)