



Outdoor Play and Learning (OPAL) CIC

Dear Jen Langtree,

Huge congratulations on achieving your OPAL 'Gold' Award yesterday. It has been wonderful working with Race Leys Infant School over the past few years to see the transformation that has taken place in the school's approach to the provision of quality play.

On my first visit, children were queuing up to leave the playground 10 minutes before the end of playtime, and the school used very little of the available space. As a result, playtimes were noisy, crowded and boring for the majority of children.

The school has successfully implemented many of the cultural and practical changes recommended in the OPAL programme, and the results are clear to see. Race Leys is now truly an OPAL school.

This means that every child has an amazing playtime every day. It also means that play is taken seriously at the school and is given appropriate leadership, planning, evaluation and resources. Playtimes at Race Leys are inclusive, joyful and provide a wonderful variety of types of play.

To maintain this quality, the school is advised to:

1. Further develop the playwork skills of the play team.
2. Ensure sufficient time is allotted to the play coordinator post.

Thank you for taking part in the OPAL Primary Programme. I will continue to act as your OPAL mentor.

The next steps are:

1. Publicise your amazing achievement and let your parents and community know you are an OPAL 'Gold' school
2. Consider if you would like to receive further support via a bespoke reaccreditation package.

I will forward your final assessment in due course and will share your wonderful news across our channels once I see it publicised by you.

Huge Congratulations once again; this is a tremendous achievement!

Best Wishes.

Rob Francksen - OPAL CIC Managing Director



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Awards 2023

Winner