



## National SMSC Quality Mark Verification Report

**Name of School: Oakfield Junior School**

**Headteacher: Mrs. Debbie Willemse**

**SMSC Lead: Mrs. Emily Buckler**

**Verification visit: 15<sup>th</sup> June 2022**

Dear Debbie,

I am delighted to inform you that as a result of the recent verification visit, Oakfield Junior School has been awarded **Gold** level of the National SMSC Quality Mark, and this has been confirmed by the Quality Assurance Panel.

Thank you for welcoming me to Oakfield and showing me the amazing things that make Oakfield so special. The hard work and thought that goes into creating a genuinely broad and exciting curriculum where pupils thrive is key to the way the school approaches SMSC.

Please thank the pupils who spoke with enthusiasm about their school and how they feel that they are encouraged to shine in every area of school life including pupil voice. It was a pleasure to meet a group of assured, thoughtful young people.

Please also thank the parents who value the hard work that goes into ensuring that each child's individual needs are not just met but celebrated. They also appreciate the amount of work that went into supporting the children with their learning during the pandemic and the way the school communicates openly with them.

Thanks also to Mr Meyers and Mrs Mare and the rest of the staff who care so much about their pupils and work so hard to give the children opportunities to engage in a vast array of academic and life skills.

Mrs Buckler has driven the verification process forward and is continuing to develop SMSC across the curriculum in a thoughtfully planned way.

I congratulate Oakfield on the high standard of SMSC development that is afforded their pupils. Young Citizens will be in touch to discuss which aspects of your provision can be shared with other schools.

### **Strengths of the school's SMSC development:**

Through your self-evaluation and our discussions it is evident that there are numerous SMSC related strengths at Oakfield; the following are a few key examples:

- Inclusion is at the heart of everything Oakfield does. All pupils are encouraged to develop their skills both in academic terms and in life skills and cultural capital.

- The rich extra-curricular provision from residentials (which are accessible for all) to visits and visitors, clubs and theme days. The school went all out on the Platinum Jubilee celebrations while learning a wide range of new skills and engaging with British values at a deep level.
- The school recognises the importance of diversity in its broadest terms and works hard to ensure that Oakfield pupils are encouraged to engage with and think deeply about a range of topics.

**Areas for development:**

- There are plans to demonstrate this positivity towards diversity more in displays around school (the classroom displays are already a striking and attractive aspect of the school's appearance)
- Developing the peer mediation system more to allow pupils to begin to manage some simple playground disputes.
- Make further links with local democracy including the local MP.

Verifier: *Siân Rowland*

SMSC Quality Mark Manager: Victoria Quijada

Please note that this award is recognised for 3 years and that re-verification should be sought by June 2025