



Leigh Academy
Oaks



Prospectus

Creating chances for dreamers,
idea makers and innovators



Leigh Academy Oaks is part of Leigh Academies Trust



Leigh Academies Trust is one of the country's largest and most-established multi-academy trusts operating across Kent, Medway and South East London. It contains primary, secondary and special academies and is highly inclusive and successful. Our mission is to deliver "education for a better world" by ensuring that young people in our academies have an excellent start in life regardless of their background or ability.

For admission enquiries telephone:
01622 755960 or email: info@oaks.latrust.org.uk



Our Values

We care -

about our pupils through our human scale approach to education, our staff and their well-being and the communities that we serve, driven by our high ideals and strong moral values.

We have boundless ambition -

to achieve excellence for all and create confident young adults with high levels of resilience and integrity.

We work together -

as one team in the belief that we are greater than the sum of our parts. We foster an enterprising culture through collaboration and in close partnership with industry and other educators.

We keep getting better -

using our 'can-do' attitude towards continuous improvement and innovation.

'My daughter is thriving, and her love of school is so apparent. When she talks about her day you can see the passion about the things she has learnt.'

Year 1 Parent



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Welcome



‘Pupils’ positive behaviour in classrooms and around the school creates a highly engaging learning environment.’

Ofsted

A warm welcome to Leigh Academy Oaks

We are delighted to welcome you to Leigh Academy Oaks, where our highest expectation is that every child receives the exceptional education they need to reach their full potential. Our principle aim is to equip our pupils with the confidence and skills to thrive today and seize every opportunity tomorrow. At Leigh Academy Oaks we are enablers of success for our pupils, family and community. We are proud to have created an academy where Every child feels valued, succeeds and makes progress, navigating any potential barriers that they may face.

Our dedicated staff are committed to making education exciting, interesting, and meaningful. We cultivate confident, independent learners with curious minds through a comprehensive and balanced curriculum, which is tailored to our pupils. By integrating the National Curriculum with the International Baccalaureate Primary Years Programme (IB PYP), we foster a deep-seated passion for learning, giving pupils, staff and parents crucial voice, choice, and ownership in their journey with us.

Learning extends well beyond the academy day, supported by a rich offering of extracurricular clubs that allow pupils to explore their interests. Furthermore, our core belief is the nurturing of positive values towards oneself, others, and the global community. Our ten Learner Profile Attributes are central to this, encapsulating the essence of successful lifelong learning and ensuring an environment where positive behaviour and respect are the norm.

We are exceptionally proud to serve our local community and value the strong home-academy relationships we build. As a proud member of Leigh Academies Trust, we benefit from an unparalleled wealth of expertise, knowledge, and an innovative approach to technology, ensuring ‘Education for a better world’ and preparing our pupils for the future they will help shape.

We warmly invite you to visit our academy and experience our vibrant learning environment firsthand. I look forward to personally welcoming you.

Mr Luke Coulson
Principal



‘Every bit of the day is a chance for pupils to learn. This is achieved through a highly ambitious and well-thought-out curriculum.’

Ofsted

Our Mission

Our curriculum is rooted in the philosophy and ethos of the IB Primary Years Programme. Through the IB Learner Profile Attributes all children and adults will grow to be empowered to access and seek experiences, opportunities that continue to make them successful and enrich their own lives.

We aim to create inquiring, lifelong learners who respect and care for the world they live in and all those who live in it. LAO learners, of any age, will understand how they are connected to the world in order to take action to improve their own lives, and the lives of local and global communities. The curriculum is built upon prior learning, and is designed to be challenging, interesting and motivational to all pupils.

As individuals, through the embedding of the International Baccalaureate Learner Profile, our children become open-minded and knowledgeable as they develop their ability to inquire and explore their own curiosities. They learn how to tackle problems through thinking skills and communicate, in more than one language, as they work collaboratively. At all times they act in a principled manner and are caring to all that they engage with. Our children develop the confidence to be risk-takers and work both independently and cooperatively. They also develop an understanding of how to reflect on our world and their own ideas and experiences and to ensure that they take a balanced approach in order to maintain and promote wellbeing.

Our learning community strives to create chances for dreamers, idea makers and innovators. We hope to empower our pupils to use their skills as divergent thinkers, responsible role models and leaders to carve out their own futures, and become extraordinary citizens.

We set high aspirations for all our pupils. Practitioners give every child and all members of the Oaks community the opportunity to experience success in their learning, by providing a relevant and challenging curriculum.





Fostering Natural Enquirers Through Play

The foundation years are the most crucial time for your child's growth. At Leigh Academy Oaks, we provide an inspiring start to pupils' educational journey in a vibrant, safe, and superbly equipped environment, featuring purposefully constructed outdoor spaces designed for exploration and discovery.

Our welcoming Nursery offers exceptional care and education for children from the age of 3 years.

Opening Hours

Our opening hours are Monday to Friday, 9.00am – 3.00pm.

Funding Accepted

We proudly accept the 15 and 30 hours of free government funding from the term following your child's third birthday.

All 3 and 4-year-olds in England are currently entitled to 15 hours a week of government-funded early education. If you live and work in England and meet the eligibility criteria, your child may be entitled to access the extended 30 hours of funded childcare per term-time week, starting the term after their third birthday.

We understand that children are natural inquirers from birth. Their innate curiosity, strong sense of agency, and capacity to interpret the world drive their early development. The experiences during these early years lay the robust foundation for all future learning, as the brain and body develop faster than at any other point.

Our approach capitalises on this unique phase:

- **Play as Inquiry:** We recognise that play is the primary driver for inquiry in young children. Through creative and structured play, children explore, discover, make connections, and develop essential social skills.
- **Holistic Development:** This powerful, play-based methodology helps pupils develop new approaches to learning while connecting key areas of their social, emotional, and cognitive development.



Our curriculum

The LAO curriculum is delivered within relevant and purposeful contexts, is built upon prior learning, and is designed to be challenging, interesting and motivational to all pupils. We aim to create inquiring, lifelong learners who respect and care for the world they live in and all those who live in it. LAO learners will understand how they are connected to the world in order to take action to improve their own lives, and the lives of local and global communities.

Our learning community strives to create chances for dreamers, idea makers and innovators. We hope to empower our pupils to use their skills as divergent thinkers, responsible role models and leaders to carve out their own futures, and become extraordinary citizens

We set high expectations for all our pupils. Practitioners give every child the opportunity to experience success in their learning, by providing a relevant and challenging curriculum.

‘Pupils have an infectious appetite for learning and relish every opportunity to become more knowledgeable.’

Ofsted



Our curriculum:

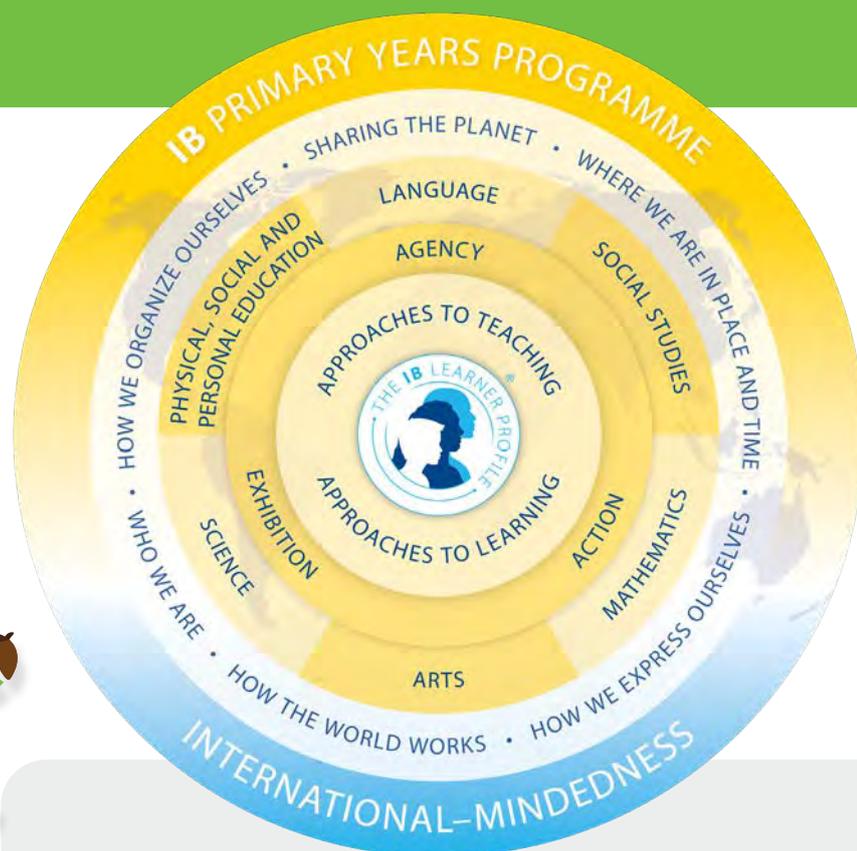
- Ensures every child is recognised as a unique individual and we celebrate and welcome differences within our diverse school community.
- Creates happy inquiring, lifelong learners who respect and care for the world they live in and all those who live in it.
- Develops learners who how they are connected to the world in order to take action to improve their own lives and the lives of local and global communities.
- Is designed to meet the needs of Leigh Academy Oaks students and has been constructed with them specifically in mind to teach them that rather than be inhibited by their circumstances, they should be inspired.
- Celebrates diversity and utilises the skills, knowledge and cultural wealth of the community while supporting the children's spiritual, moral, social and cultural development, ensuring that children are well prepared for life in modern Britain.
- Involves the community as an integral part, learning about, with and from it.
- Is underpinned by the National Curriculum (NC), the International Baccalaureate Primary Years Programme (IB PYP) and the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). It will be entrenched through conferencing and an effective cycle of evaluation by all stakeholders.
- Is aspirational through experiences and opportunities for all pupils to enrich their learning and instil a culture of ambition and being big, bold and brave.
- Is inclusive and develops a positive pupil well-being. All pupils know and understand how they are a valued member of society, how it is their right to feel and to be kept safe and how to maintain their own positive well-being.

The International Baccalaureate Primary Years Programme



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The Primary Years Programme (PYP) is designed for pupils aged 3 to 12 and is one of four programmes offered by the International Baccalaureate Organisation (IBO).



The PYP focuses on the development of the whole child as an inquirer, both in the classroom and in the world outside. It is a framework guided by six interdisciplinary themes of global significance, explored using knowledge and skills derived from six subject areas, as well as interdisciplinary skills, with a powerful emphasis on inquiry.

The PYP is flexible enough to accommodate the demands of the National Curriculum as this is the curriculum that Leigh Academy Oaks will follow. The PYP:

- Allows integrated development of cognitive and affective skills;
- Enables us to develop a curriculum appropriate to meet pupils learning needs;
- Develops autonomous and critical learners;
- Content is chosen by academies but is delivered within a concept driven curriculum to bring coherence across subjects; and
- Assessment drives learning and teaching positively.

Leigh Academy Oaks has been successful in authorization as an IB World School for the Primary Years Programme. These are schools that share a common philosophy: a commitment to high quality, challenging, international education that Leigh Academy Oaks believes is important for our students.

For further information about the IB and its programmes, visit www.ibo.org

The International Baccalaureate Learner Profile



The Learner Profile is at the heart of our curriculum and is integrated through every aspect of the curriculum, so that pupils have the opportunity to develop their personal and social attributes on a daily basis.

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We are also fortunate to provide our children with a 'forest school' ethos and provision as part of our education. Our trained practitioners enable us to develop additional learning and development opportunities that enrich our curriculum offer for all age groups.

At Leigh Academy Oaks we aim to create inquiring, lifelong learners who respect and care for the world they live in and all those who live in it. Our learners understand how they are connected to the world in order to take action to improve their own lives, and the lives of local and global communities, becoming global citizens themselves.

Learning Experiences also focus on the development of the IB Learner Profile Attributes. These attributes aim to develop active, compassionate and lifelong learners. The children are also encouraged to use the vocabulary when speaking about their own learning.



Inquirers

Open-minded

Knowledgeable

Caring

Thinkers

Risk-takers

Communicators

Balanced

Principled

Reflective

Pupil Employment Scheme

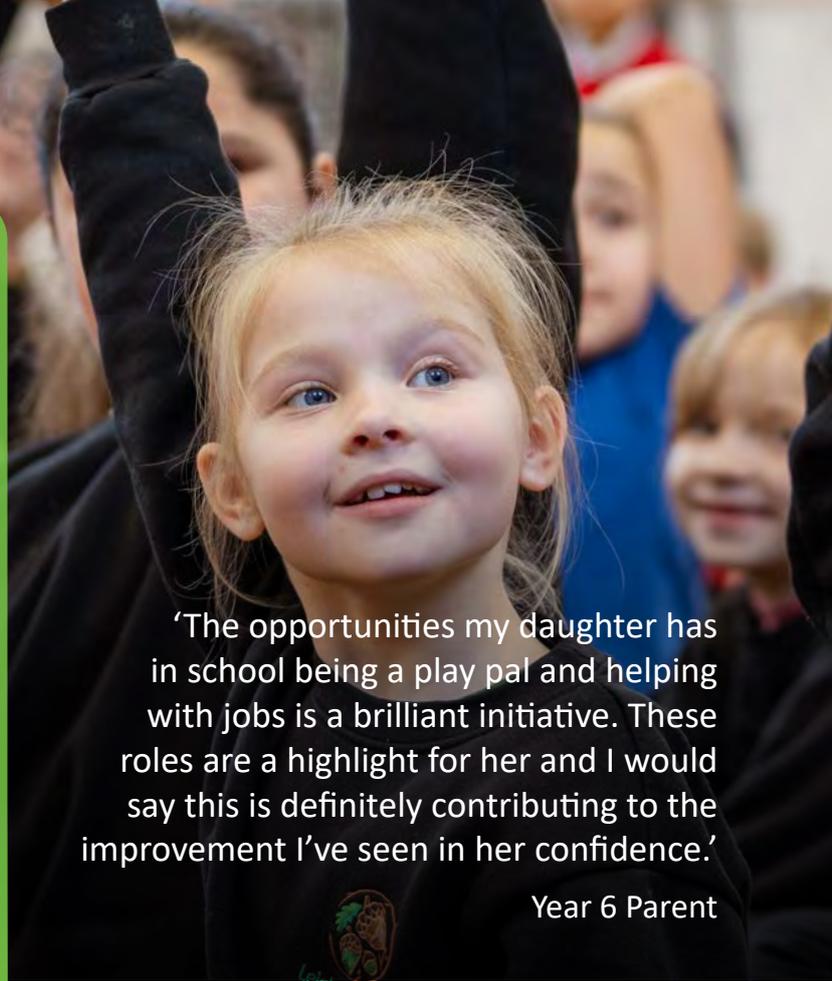
At Leigh Academy Oaks, our commitment as an IB PYP school shines through in initiatives like our Pupil Employment Scheme, enabling pupils to take action within their immediate community. This programme is all about fostering personal development and nurturing the whole child, giving our pupils hands-on opportunities to contribute to our vibrant school community and cultivating essential skills for life.

Imagine pupils taking on roles like photographers and reporters, documenting academy life; well-being ambassadors and playpals, utilising their social skills to support others; or even delivery operatives, ensuring daily fresh fruit and milk deliveries to classrooms. Every position helps children develop crucial IB Learner Profile Attributes. It's a truly reciprocal experience: pupils gain invaluable employment skills and confidence, while actively contributing to a supportive academy environment.

We're thrilled to extend these opportunities to Year 2 pupils. Our decision was driven by strong Pupil Voice; many Year 2 children expressed a genuine desire to take on responsibilities and help others. We believe facilitating this early ambition and engagement is a vital part of their personal growth journey.

The application process mirrors real-world scenarios, with every child submitting an application and undergoing an interview, receiving formal written communication about their success. As a reward for their hard work, pupils choose their preferred 'payment' at the end of their term, with past choices ranging from movie afternoons to ice cream parties.

We are immensely proud of our pupils' dedication and the profound impact they have on our academy community, embodying responsibility and developing critical skills every step of the way.



'The opportunities my daughter has in school being a play pal and helping with jobs is a brilliant initiative. These roles are a highlight for her and I would say this is definitely contributing to the improvement I've seen in her confidence.'

Year 6 Parent

'Little Acorns' Wrap Around Care

Leigh Academy Oaks is pleased to be able to provide the children of our academy the opportunity to attend Breakfast Club and After School Club. These clubs may be attended on a regular or ad-hoc basis subject to availability. This childcare provision is an extension of Leigh Academy Oaks and therefore operates in line with the academy's ethos and values and high expectations of pupil behaviour. The wrap-around care staff have been appointed for their expertise in childcare and also have the necessary qualifications for safeguarding, behaviour management, first aid and food hygiene.

It is the wish of everyone involved to provide a happy and stimulating environment in which children are supported to reach their full potential. We believe that a positive partnership with parents and carers is crucial and promotes our aim to maximise the child's learning and ensure well being and well-rounded development.



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Oaks

Further INFORMATION

Please visit our academy website

[Leigh Academy Oaks](#)

Open Event and Admissions information

Find out when our next open event is

[Visit our website](#)



Oak Tree Avenue
Maidstone, Kent
ME15 9AX

01622 755960
info@oaks.latrust.org.uk
leighacademyoaks.org.uk



Education for a better world

Chief Executive: Simon Beamish BA (Hons) MSc PGCE NPQH NLE FCCT

Carnation Road, Strood, Rochester, Kent ME2 2SX
01634 412200 | fax: 01634 412201
info@latrust.org.uk | leighacademiestrust.org.uk

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