

School Games Mark

Integrating physical activity and education into young children's lives is essential for creating a foundation of movement that children will carry with them throughout their lives. It provides children with the generic skills, knowledge and understanding they need to become physically literate, and at the same time gives most of them their first regular experiences of sport.

Physical Education encourages children to develop positive attitudes towards a healthy and active lifestyle. It supports children's personal and social wellbeing. Children work as individuals, in teams and groups whilst developing fundamental concepts such as fairness, respect and leadership. Through Physical Education, children are encouraged to discover their capabilities, preferences and make informed choices to support and equip them for lifelong participation in sport and physical activity.

It is the intention of Oakdene to provide opportunities for children to become physically literate and with the knowledge, skills and motivation to equip them for lifelong participation in sport and physical activity.

We are extremely proud of our pupils for their dedication to all aspects of school sport, including those young volunteers, leaders and officials who made our competitions possible.

We are proud to say that we currently hold the 'Silver School Games' Mark and are working towards the gold criteria.



To achieve the Silver Mark, we demonstrated that we have:

Increased engagement in School Games:

- *Providing all students in Years 3-6 with two hours of Physical Education, School Sport and Physical activity per week).*
- *Engaging at least 35% of pupils in extracurricular sporting and physical activity every week.*

Developed Competitive Opportunities:

- *Providing all children with the opportunities to take part in age and stage appropriate levels of competition (personal challenges, intra-school & inter-school competitions)*
- *Promoting the School Games to parents and the local community at least once every half term using our newsletters.*

Broadened the range of Opportunities:

- *Engaging a representative group of pupils within and beyond the curriculum in leading, managing and officiating in School Games activity (Playground Leaders)*
- *Engaging students in the planning and development of School Games activity through pupil voice.*

Increasing and Sustaining Participation:

- *Having and creating active links with at least three local community and pathway sport/physical activity provider (signposting function following a delivery of taster sessions in school.*

What is it?

The School Games Mark is a Government-led award scheme launched in 2012, facilitated by the Youth Sport Trust. It rewards schools for their commitment to the development of competition across their school and into the community. Participating in this process allows schools to evaluate their PE provision and assists them in developing an action plan for future progress.

School Games registered schools are eligible to apply once a year during an application window, which traditionally takes place during the summer term, and are graded against set criteria. The School Games Mark is a retrospective award and all answers submitted consider the current academic year.

What are the key criteria?

Each School Games Mark application is divided into four sets of questions. They cover the following basic topics:

- Participation - how many young people at our school are being engaged in sporting activity?
- Competition - how many different sports are being played and how many competitions are being entered?
- Workforce - how many pupils are involved in leadership activities alongside taking part in competitions?
- Clubs - how many local links does our school have with clubs or establishments from the area?

If you would like to know more about the **School Games Mark**, please visit this website:

<https://www.yourschoolgames.com/how-it-works/school-games-mark/>

Why bother?

- High quality PE and physical activity is an entitlement for all pupils, regardless of their starting points or their prior experiences of sport and physical activity.
- National Curriculum states that a high-quality PE curriculum:
 - inspires all pupils to succeed and excel in competitive sport and other physically-demanding activities... provide opportunities for pupils to become physically confident in a way which supports their health and fitness...*
 - provides opportunities to compete in sport and other activities to build character and help to embed values such as fairness and respect.*
- We want to be recognised and rewarded for our engagement in the School Games against a national benchmark.
- **Spirit of the Games;** The Six School Games values sit alongside our core school values. The values recognise how the experience of sport should be embodied and epitomised in school.



Our School

- We will use sport and physical activity to build children’s self-esteem, confidence and resilience.
- Encourage engagement of all children in regular physical activity, including increased participation in competitive sport.
- Provide opportunities for both children and teachers to work with and alongside PE coaches and specialists. This will develop the skills and expertise of staff to provide better coaching, mentoring and advice to children across the whole Physical Education spectrum.
- To cater for the different strengths, needs and preferences of each child. A range of activities will therefore be provided with a broad base of movement knowledge, skills and understanding, which children can refine and expand throughout their primary school years.
- Promote positive attitudes towards sport and participation.
- Celebrate the sporting successes but also encourage the celebration of progression and achievement that continues to build on self-esteem, in line *School Games values*.