

September 2024

Dear Parents,

I am writing to let you know about Oakfield Academy's work with Place2Be, a national charity supporting schools to improve the confidence and wellbeing of children and young people.

Place2Be provides emotional and therapeutic support to children and young people, families and staff in more than 550 schools nationwide. It gives children and young people a space to express themselves through talking and creative work, and to think about any worries they might have. Place2Be also provides support for parents and staff too. For more information about Place2Be and its work please see the Place2Be website (www.place2be.org.uk) or speak to your child's tutor or the Place2Be staff member in the school.

Place2Talk

One of the most popular aspects of this service is called 'Place2Talk'. It's open to all children and young people at Oakfield Academy, and they can make an appointment to spend 15 minutes with a trained counsellor, either by themselves or with a friend. On average, about a third of children and young people in Place2Be schools take advantage of this service every year. Children and young people often talk about friendships or any worries they may have. Place2Be will record your child's name, date of birth, year group, gender, ethnicity, the broad topic of discussion and any actions taken as a result of the session. This information is stored securely. It is used in key coded form to evaluate Place2Be's service and improve our work.

Unless we hear otherwise from you, the school and Place2Be will assume that your child has parents' permission to come to Place2Talk. If you would like to find out more, or would prefer that your child does not use this service, please contact Lucy (Place2Be Mental Health Practitioner) on lucy.loubser@place2be.org.uk who will be very happy to answer any questions.

To withdraw your permission for your child to talk with Lucy Loubser, please do so via Parentpay, simply choose 'pay for other items' and PLACE2BE DECLINE will take you to the appropriate section.

Regards,



Lucy Loubser
Place2Be Counsellor