



# Oaklands School

6-8 Albion Hill, Loughton, Essex IG10 4RA

Tel: 020 8508 3517

## HEADMISTRESS

Mrs Gretchen Copeman B.Ed. (Hons)

E-mail: [info@oaklandsschool.co.uk](mailto:info@oaklandsschool.co.uk)

Website: [www.oaklandsschool.co.uk](http://www.oaklandsschool.co.uk)

11 November 2024

Dear Parents

### Re: **School ISI Inspection Report**

As you will be aware, three inspectors from the Independent Schools Inspectorate spent several days at Oaklands at the end of September scrutinising all aspects of the education we provide. With a day's notice, this type of inspection provides us with a useful evaluation of our provision as it reports on current practice without the ability to put in any special preparation. This means that we were inspected through a snapshot of the school as it normally is, as seen by a team of experienced professionals.

We have now received the final report and we are pleased to be able to share it with you.

This was the first time we have been inspected under the Independent Schools Inspectorate's new framework, which now focusses on descriptive commentary rather than overall judgments. There are five main areas that were inspected, which include scrutiny of compliance with the hundreds of Independent School Standards Regulations (ISSRs).

The five areas are:

- Leadership and management, and governance
- Quality of education, training and recreation
- Pupils' physical and mental health and emotional wellbeing
- Pupils' social and economic education and contribution to society
- Safeguarding

**We are delighted to report that we met every one of the Standards and Regulations.** No further action is required as a result of this inspection.

As there are no longer any judgments in this new inspection framework, the inspectors' comments are key to understanding where the school is currently at. We are delighted at the huge number of positive comments and the full compliance. Some of the comments that are particularly worth noting are as follows:

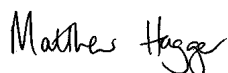
- Leaders create a warm, open culture based on mutual respect and tolerance. They understand the needs of the pupils.
- Leaders work successfully with well qualified and committed teachers to provide a quality of education which effectively supports pupils' intellectual, emotional, social and physical development.
- Detailed assessment informs effective lesson planning which meets pupils' needs. All pupils make good progress.
- Pupils who have special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND) are well supported and their needs are met in class.
- Pupils acquire new interests and skills through the varied programme of extra-curricular activities and the quality of the physical education they receive.
- Children in the Nursery and Reception benefit from a carefully planned curriculum which is taught by caring, well-qualified staff.
- Pupils have opportunities to develop their leadership skills, enabling them to initiate a variety of activities, listen carefully to their peers and work together.
- Pupils behave well. There is a fair, positive behaviour management policy in place which is used effectively. All aspects of health and safety, including online safety, are managed carefully so that pupils feel safe and secure.

This achievement represents a great deal of hard work and consistent attention to detail by the whole of our team, and our thanks go in particular to the fantastic pupils and staff we are so fortunate to have at Oaklands. The report refers to the positive contribution our pupils make to the school community, as well as their respect for others, and these were clearly evident throughout the inspection. Thank you too for your extremely positive feedback in the questionnaires, which set the scene for the inspectors on the eve of their first day with us.

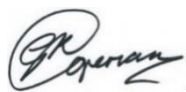
We continue to strive for the best education possible for our pupils and we plan to incorporate elements of this report when planning for the future and developing our provision.

With kind regards

Yours sincerely



Matthew Hagger  
Group Managing Principal



Gretchen Copeman  
Headmistress



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**OAK-TREE SCHOOLS** is the group name of:

BRAESIDE SCHOOL, BUCKHURST HILL • COOPERSALE HALL SCHOOL, EPPING • NORMANHURST SCHOOL, NORTH CHINGFORD • OAKLANDS SCHOOL, LOUGHTON

HEAD OFFICE ADDRESS: 6 ALBION HILL, LOUGHTON, ESSEX IG10 4RA

GROUP MANAGING PRINCIPAL & DIRECTOR: MR MATTHEW HAGGER B.A. (HONS), M.ED., PGCE CO-DIRECTORS: MR NICHOLAS HAGGER M.A. (OXON), MRS ANN HAGGER CERT. ED.

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