



Outdoor Play and Learning (OPAL) CIC

Dear Walter Halls Primary School,

On behalf of the entire OPAL team, we are absolutely delighted to extend our heartfelt congratulations to you all on achieving the **OPAL Platinum Award**. This is the highest level of OPAL accreditation—a rare and exceptional accolade that reflects a truly outstanding commitment to transforming childhood through play.

To reach Platinum is no small feat. Fewer than 2% of schools in the UK attain this level of excellence, and it stands as a testament to your vision, dedication, and the deep-rooted belief that every child deserves a rich, joyful, and inclusive play life every single day.

There is so much to celebrate at Walter Halls. Your play offer is a shining example of what is possible when a whole school community commits to creating a culture where children's play is treasured. We are especially impressed by three areas of exceptional practice:



T: 01761 462991 M: 07870 284517 E: opalcic@opalcic.org

www.outdoorplayandlearning.org.uk



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OpalOutdoorplay

Registered Office: Dingle Cottage, Street End Lane, Blagdon, Bristol, BS40 7TW Company No: 7659212 VAT No: 207537807

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1. **The extraordinary diversity of play opportunities** available across your site speaks volumes of your commitment to inclusion. You have created a landscape where all children, regardless of need, temperament, or background, can find joy, challenge, creativity, and belonging in their own unique ways.
2. You have not shied away from the scale of your site—instead, you have **risen magnificently to the challenge** it poses. The scale and variety of your play environments are awe-inspiring and provide a rich and varied canvas for children's imaginations to run wild.
3. The **play work of your dedicated play team** is truly exceptional. Their presence, skill, and relational care elevate the everyday into something magical, ensuring that children are not only safe, but seen, heard, and empowered through their play.



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This achievement would not have been possible without the visionary leadership of your Headteacher, the unwavering commitment of your staff and play team, and the spirited engagement of your pupils, who have embraced this culture of adventurous, child-led exploration with open arms.

The impact of this play culture is unmistakable. We see children who are confident and kind, who take risks and support one another, who express themselves creatively, and who experience the outdoors not just as a playground, but as a world of wonder to be shaped and shared. These are the seeds of lifelong wellbeing, resilience, and joy—and you are nurturing them every day.

Walter Halls Primary School now stands proudly as a beacon of best practice in play. Your work inspires others and illuminates the incredible potential of what schools can become when play is held at the heart of school life.

With gratitude, admiration, and our very best wishes,
Bobby Beaumont - Director Opal East Midlands



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