



Oakthorpe Primary School is the first infant-junior school in Enfield to achieve the prestigious National NACE Challenge Award for excellence in provision for able, gifted and talented pupils.

‘Oakthorpe Primary School has successfully created a culture of high expectations for pupils’ learning and behaviour, in which achievements are valued and success celebrated. Lessons are very challenging and pupils show extremely positive attitudes to learning.

There is a rich curriculum providing a breath of opportunity for learning in academic and non-academic learning including the development of pupils’ leadership skills. Pupils are actively involved in setting their own targets and are encouraged to ask challenging questions of teachers.

Pupils say that, “this school really listens to us” and that, “everyone in this school will help you.” Parents say that, “every child here has the opportunity to shine in their own speciality.”

Extract from Challenge Award Assessment Report May 2008

Oakthorpe Primary School is the second school in Enfield and the sixty-sixth primary school in the UK to achieve the prestigious Challenge Award for Able, Gifted and Talented Pupils. This Award is given for high quality work by the whole school, teachers and governors, in challenging all pupils, including those with high abilities, to achieve their best.

The Award is given by NACE: the National Association for Able Children in Education, a leading national education organisation and registered charity established for 25 years. The Association exists to help the daily work of teachers providing for pupils with high abilities whilst enabling all pupils to flourish. It provides advice, training and resources for teachers, including The Challenge Award Self-Evaluation Framework which Oakthorpe Primary School has used to audit and plan what it provides for able, gifted and talented pupils. Many thousands of primary and secondary schools are using The Challenge Award Framework to develop their work.

Assessors, who spent a day in the school, were impressed by the very effective coordination of gifted and talented education, fully supported by the headteacher, staff team and governors, to ensure a whole-school approach. Displays of pupils’ work throughout the school are outstanding.

Assessors judged the quality of the school’s work by observing lessons, interviewing the pupils, teachers, parents and governors and by looking at the pupils’ work. The Award is given when schools demonstrate that they meet the criteria of the Award and are committed to continuing high-quality provision for able, gifted and talented pupils.

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Julie Fitzpatrick. Chief Executive

NACE
P O Box 242
Arnolds Way
Oxford
OX2 9FR

T: +44 (0) 1865 861879
F: +44 (0) 1865 861880
E: info@nace.co.uk
W: www.nace.co.uk