Outdoor Play and Learning (OPAL) CIC

13th July 2026

Dear Parents, Staff, and Governors,

I am delighted to share some fantastic news - your school has been awarded the **Platinum OPAL (Outdoor Play and Learning) Accreditation** with an outstanding score of **96%**.

This is an exceptional achievement and places Albrighton Primary school and Nursery amongst the very best OPAL schools in the country. It is a testament to the dedication, creativity and commitment of the entire school community.

As your OPAL Mentor, it has been a privilege to visit the school and witness the remarkable culture of play that has been created. From the moment children step onto the playground, they are immersed in a rich and varied environment that offers challenge, creativity, adventure, social connection and opportunities to follow their own interests.

At my Final Audit visit I observed children building dens, creating imaginative worlds, sliding, scooting, climbing, constructing, exploring, performing, playing ball games and working together in countless different ways. The range of opportunities available is outstanding, but what impressed me most was the way play has become embedded in the culture of the school.

The regular play assemblies are a particular strength. The school clearly recognises the important role these play in helping children understand expectations, manage risk, support one another and make the most of the opportunities available to them. Alongside this, the commitment of staff, governors and families has helped create an environment where children feel trusted, capable and empowered to shape their own play experiences.

The impact of this work can be seen everywhere. Children demonstrate resilience, independence, cooperation and creativity. They have access to a wide range of physical, imaginative, social and

sensory play opportunities, supported by an excellent variety of loose parts, natural materials and thoughtfully developed play spaces. The school has successfully created an environment where all children can find something that engages and inspires them.

This achievement belongs to the whole school community. Thank you to the leadership team for their vision and commitment, to staff for embracing the principles of OPAL and continually developing the play offer, to governors for their support and challenge, and to parents for their ongoing encouragement and donations. Most importantly, congratulations to the children, whose imagination, enthusiasm and creativity bring the playground to life every day.

Achieving 96% Platinum is a remarkable accomplishment, but perhaps more importantly, the school has created something that cannot be measured by a score alone: a culture where play is recognised, celebrated and protected as a vital part of childhood.

You should all be incredibly proud of what you have achieved together.

With warmest congratulations,



Amy Campbell, OPAL West Midlands

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