



What makes Pikes Lane School Outstanding?



We were delighted to receive an outstanding OFSTED grading in June 2016. We believe that the reason we are providing an outstanding quality of education for all our children is because there are so many things that we do at Pikes Lane which are special.

Here are some of the reasons why Pikes Lane is unique and special:

Pikes Lane Learning Journey



Miss Waldron does a fantastic job organising our Pikes Lane Learning Journey. We believe that as well as ensuring that children leave Pikes Lane being able to read, write and do maths to a very high standard, we want them to have had some amazing first hand experiences too!

At Pikes Lane we passionately believe that our Curriculum should be relevant, meaningful and bespoke to our context. Although we follow the National Curriculum, there are also many other components to the children's learning experiences.

Our 'Pikes Lane Learning Journey' is represented as a 'jigsaw' of activities and experiences (including the national curriculum), which ensure that our children have an outstanding education and are exceptionally well-prepared for their future lives.

Each term we send a Curriculum Newsletter to parents, which tells them in advance what their child will be studying and why. Some components of our 'Learning Journey Jigsaw' and why we are so special are listed below:

Our **Learner Profile**: this ensures that our pupils are focusing on skills, which are vital to their future success in everything we teach. Through our Learner Profile,

Pupils strive to become:

- Risk takers
- Collaborative enquirers
- Reflective thinkers
- Effective communicators



The views, opinions and interests of our pupils: Pupils share their opinions about topics by posting comments on their class's blog and completing KWHL grids prior to every topic, letting teachers know what they would like to learn. The pupil voice is also represented in our Leaders of Learning group. This group meets half termly to discuss and evaluate the curriculum, making suggestions for further developments. They then present their suggestions to the teaching staff each term.

Wow experiences: Trips, visitors to school and theme weeks all help to further enhance the learning journey of our pupils. Visiting a chocolate factory, receiving a visit from some Roman soldiers and our Year 6 Takeover day are experiences which have been particularly enjoyable for our pupils.

The Life Skills Passport: This year we have developed our Learning Journey further by introducing 'The Life Skills Passport'. This is a document that contains over 50 different real life experiences for the children to 'tick off' before they leave us at 11 years old. Climbing a tree, preparing a cold meal and helping in the community are just a few of the experiences, which we believe children should have been provided with so that they are ready to face the 'real world'.

Creative Arts

We are extremely fortunate that we have a specialist Creative Arts teacher, Mr Bradley, who delivers an amazing Creative Arts Curriculum. Every pupil in school receives specialist music and performing arts tuition. We have events throughout the year to ensure that Arts and Design have the best platforms to be seen by audiences inside and outside school. We have the best resources available to help children progress from a customised creative arts studio to a fully lit stage. We engage in partnership work with other schools and arts organisations and are strong advocates for the Arts. In March 2017 we were one of only 4 schools in the North West to be awarded the Gold Arts Mark and we were nominated finalists for the for the *The Arts Council England Award for Innovation and Leadership in Cultural Education*.



THE NORTH WEST
CULTURAL EDUCATION AWARDS | 2017
FINALIST



Artsmark
Gold Award
Awarded by Arts
Council England

Technology and Computing

Technology is everywhere, entwined in almost every part of our lives. It affects how we shop, socialise, connect, play, and most importantly learn. With its great and increasing presence in our lives we recognise that our pupils will almost certainly rely on their ability to use technology throughout all stages of their education and their future working life. We aim to be leaders in this area and embrace the huge difference that technology can make in our environment with open arms. We were the first primary school in Bolton to have a one-to-one iPad programme for year 5 and 6 pupils allowing pupils to take home their iPads after school and use it with their family. We regularly receive visits from other schools to see what can be achieved using technology to improve practice. We have found that through adopting a new and innovative approach to teaching and learning we have been able to improve the efficiency, personalisation, speed and effectiveness of learning. Pupils do not only use technology in a discrete lesson or when learning about technology itself, they use it as a learning tool and approach across the curriculum.

Physical Education

We also are very fortunate to have a fantastic PE specialist, Mr Higgins who, thanks to all his amazing work, has ensured that at Pikes Lane we are a centre of Excellence for PE. We compete in over 30 competitions and events each year, covering a wide range of sports across multiple key stages. Over the past three years we have had great success at both local and regional levels of competition.



Growth Mindset

At Pikes Lane we believe that having a growth mindset means that we can achieve great things if we make the effort and show resilience when faced with challenges. Last year, we conducted some Growth Mindset educational action research with a senior lecturer from The University of Cumbria. This has led to the introduction of a number of highly successful strategies that encourage both pupils and staff to develop growth mind-sets. Our children make excellent progress across the curriculum because they are not afraid of challenges and they know that making mistakes helps them to learn.



Challenge Award

We have been awarded the NACE Challenge Award, due to our excellent provision for all pupils, but particularly for our more able learners. We are one of only two primary schools in Greater Manchester to have the prestigious award and the only school in Bolton.

Extended School

At Pikes Lane School we place a huge emphasis on the safety and wellbeing of all of our stakeholders. We employ a pastoral team made up of the Extended Schools and Pupil Welfare Manager and a Learning Mentor.

The team work alongside pupils and families who are experiencing barriers to learning by working with outside agencies and delivering in-house interventions or offering support. Examples include supporting with attendance or punctuality issues or on-going medical concerns or conditions.

We have a huge range of extra-curricular clubs and activities both for families and pupils to engage families and continue learning outside of the school hours.

Safeguarding is of paramount importance within school and staff training and support is provided with parent friendly leaflets and displays around school.



ESOL Class for Parents



FAST (Families & Schools Together) Graduation

Inclusion

We are very fortunate to have two amazing SENDCOs at Pikes Lane! Miss Haydon leads inclusion in Early Years and Mrs Cousen leads inclusion in Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2.



Members of our Young Interpreters Team!

We achieved the 'Inclusion Quality Mark' in 2015, and the assessor recognised that we are '**committed to including all children. Inclusion pervades every nook and cranny of the school, an ethos and a culture that includes all members of the school community.**'

We are proud to have such a diverse school community, with lots of different cultures and 32 languages spoken. We believe that all children, regardless of background, race, gender, or SEN need, deserve the very best start in life.

We understand that all children are on a learning journey that is unique to them and they may develop at different rates. However, where a special educational need is identified, we aim to work quickly, and involving parents and other agencies, to ensure that the child has the best support possible.

We employ our own Speech and Language Therapist and Learning Mentor to support children within school. We also have an identified Communication Champion working in EYFS and lots of specialist staff across school. We implement a range of specialist programmes, including Toe by Toe, Nursery Narrative, Word Wasp and Idl. The curriculum is differentiated to meet the needs of all children, thinking about learning styles, use of specialist resources and children's interests.

Coaching



At Pikes Lane, we really value everyone's contribution to our school's success. As part of this model of school improvement, we introduced the concept of '**Coaching**' across the school. We use this as one of our many tools to develop both staff and children.

With staff, we use coaching as a way to challenge and support staff to be the very best teachers they can be. Rather than just 'telling' staff what they need to do to become better at teaching, we use a coaching model to encourage staff to '**find the solution**' from within themselves. This empowers staff and gives them the opportunity to try out different teaching approaches within a supportive and developmental context

In class we have implemented '**Super Coaches**'. This means that any child, in any lesson, in any area, could be a Super Coach. The level of dialogue and discussion between the 'Super Coach' and the 'Coachee' is very challenging as well as supportive. Children love being chosen to be a 'Super Coach'

During the year we have developed children's understanding of what skills coaches need to have and have trained all the children in the skills of coaching as a way to develop children's confidence and ultimately as a way of further raising attainment and progress.

We are currently introducing the '**Coaching**' model with all our children who currently have leadership roles within school. For example, our **Peer Mediators** are using coaching skills to help children who may be finding it difficult to deal with

difficulties and conflicts at lunchtimes to find their own solutions to difficulties. This helps to build resilience and self-esteem.

Our school has achieved many awards over the last 5 years which include:

- Ofsted Outstanding
- National Leader of Education and National Support School
- IOM Centre of Excellence
- IQM Inclusion Quality Mark
- Investor in Pupils
- The Challenge Award
- Basic Skills Quality Mark
- Ladywood Teaching School Alliance
- The Active Mark
- International School Award
- Leading Parent Partnership Award
- Bronze and Silver Eco-Schools Award
- Healthy Schools Award
- Bolton Children's University Award
- Gold Arts Mark Award
- School Games Silver Award

LEADING SCHOOL | LEARNING SCHOOL | INCLUSIVE SCHOOL | HEALTHY SCHOOL | EXTENDED SCHOOL | REFLECTIVE SCHOOL

