



Oak Multi Academy Trust Newsletter

Edition 1 | May 2019

Oak MAT Explained

Overdale's Eco Award

Manor High's Ofsted Delight

Great British Spring Clean

Plus much more...

A close-up photograph of vibrant green oak leaves with detailed vein patterns, set against a blurred background of more foliage and a hint of blue sky.

OAK Multi Academy Trust

Welcome to the first Oak Trust Newsletter in which we will aim to keep staff and our local communities up-to-date with developments within the trust and our schools.

About Us

Oak Trust is a partnership of schools in Leicestershire and Leicester City with a shared ethos, common values and collective goals. We do not have a 'lead' school, instead a collaborative approach within a framework that encourages and supports a high degree of autonomy for each school, recognising that each school has a particular character and set of strengths.

Oak Trust is committed to providing an inspirational education which allows all our pupils to realise their full potential as learners and citizens through excellent teaching, learning and development of the whole child. We will meet the needs of our unique schools and communities through collaboration, support and challenge.

The name Oak stands for 'Oadby and Knighton' as that's the location of the five founding schools. The logo, showing a tree with roots, reflects the process of growth and transformation through learning, and how important strong foundations are.

Oak MAT-ter of Facts

Formed:	1st April 2018
Trust schools:	Brookside Primary School, Manor High School, Overdale Infant School, Overdale Junior School and Woodland Grange Primary School
Number of pupils:	2,650 in the Trust (including the Overdale and Woodland Grange pre-schools)
Number of staff:	286 across the trust schools

Trust Governance and Leadership

The following diagram, right, shows the structure of the trust leadership and management .

Members

Simon Cole

Chief Constable, Leicestershire Police. National lead on Prevent. Vice President of Leicestershire Scouts and Guides. Vice President of Police Mutual. Visiting Fellow of Leicester University Criminology Department.

Professor Maurice Galton

Retired Professor and Dean of Education, University of Leicester. Emeritus Professor and Associate Director of Research, Faculty of Education, University of Cambridge.

Dr Khalid Abdul Karim

Consultant Child Psychologist, University of Leicester.

Trustees

Ross Ian Grant (Chair of Trustees)

Councillor and Lord Mayor, Leicester City Council

Sajeeda Rose

Chief Operating Officer, Northampton Enterprise Partnership

Peter Reeve

HR Director, Motor Neurone Disease Association

Damian Thurston

Vice Principal, Countesthorpe Leysland Community College

Liz Sahu

Group Training Manager, Addo Food Group

James Lawlor

Enterprise Release Manager, Lloyds Banking Group

Kam Karaji

Head of Security Operations for UK and Ireland, Telent

Executive Team

The Executive Team is made up of all the Headteachers of the trust schools and includes:

Kirk Hayles (Chief Executive Officer)

Headteacher of Woodland Grange Primary

Cathie Payne (Chief Finance Officer)

Tara Say (Trust Clerk)

Headteachers

Grace Brown (Brookside Primary School)

Liam Powell (Manor High School)

Karen Stuart (Overdale Infant School)

Juliet Hart (Overdale Junior School)

Kirk Hayles (Woodland Grange Primary School)

Chairs of Governors

Paul Saville (Brookside Primary School)

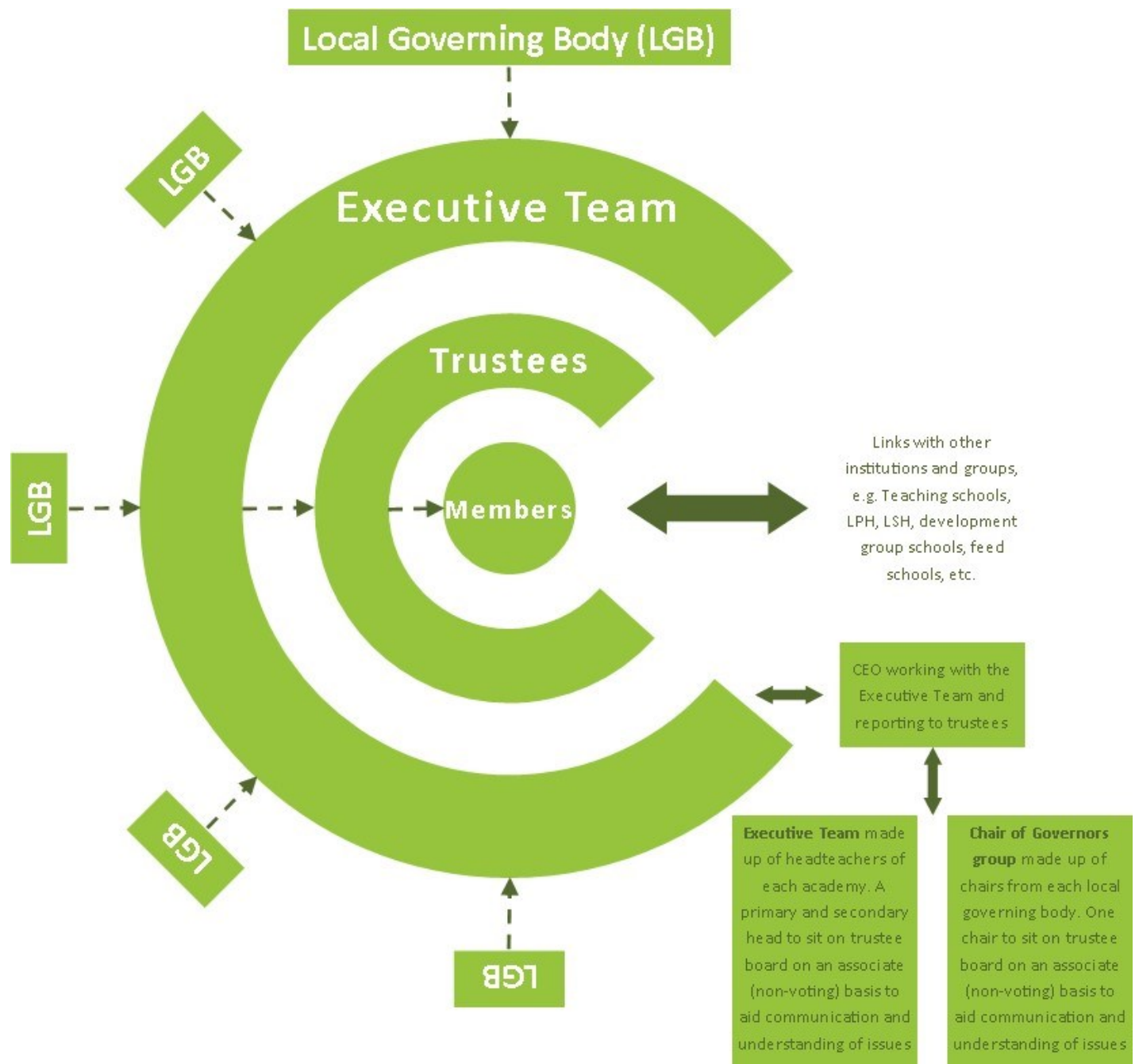
Ashif Manjothi (Manor High School)

Daniel Routledge (Overdale Infant School)

Tony Smith (Overdale Junior School)

Mo Chatra (Woodland Grange Primary School)

Oak MAT Governance and Leadership Diagram





BROOKSIDE Primary School

Route to Resilience

Here at Brookside Resilience is a core value and it underpins everything we do. Our children's resilience is shown in a variety of ways: in academic learning, sporting achievements, when learning a musical instrument and driving us forward to be the very best. We provide a wide enrichment curriculum.

We have received the Route to Resilience accreditation, which is in recognition of our outstanding work with all aspects of mental health and wellbeing. Brookside is dedicated to helping children achieve their very best and all adults in our team are role models for all our pupils.

School Trips

Various trips have taken place so far this academic year.

Year 1 had a pirate day at Beaumanor Hall, where utilising the pirate theme, the leaders aim to enrich the maths, literacy and history aspects of the curriculum. There were physical challenges, treasure hunts and perplexing problems to solve.

Year 2 went to the Thinktank, Birmingham's award winning science museum. They had an amazing day learning about everything from steam engines and talking robots through to gurgling guts and a chocolate wrapping machine.

Year 3 had an Egyptian day where an archaeologist, who still works in Egypt and discovered Tutankhamun's mummifying crypt, came into school and provided a bespoke experience which the children loved!

All of KS2 went to the cinema before Christmas to celebrate a successful, and long, term. Plus the whole school watched a panto on the last day of term which was great fun.

Most recently, Neil O'Brien, our local MP, visited Year 5 and spoke to our children about life in politics. Year 5 also had a visit from the Mayor and experienced a mock trial, which was very well received!

Sporting Successes

Our sporting achievements have continued this year with our football team beat Launde 7-1 at our last fixture and our basketball team came second in the local tournament.

SPARX club is being run again this year, alongside Primary GALS, a fun and fitness event for Key Stage 2 girls organised by Learning South Leicestershire School Sports Partnership.

Our Sports Apprentice is currently working with some of our Year 1 children who need help with their fine and gross motor skills. He is also working with all of the children in EYFS to improve their core strength alongside some fine and gross motor work.

Songs from the Riverbank

Singing Sally provides a bespoke musical experience for all of our Riverbank children and also works alongside our EYFS team every Monday afternoon, all our children love their sessions! Riverbank also wrote and performed a well-received Pantomime to EYFS, KS1 and their parents. Well done all!





Manor High School

Ofsted Visit

We are delighted to share with you the full report from the Ofsted inspection which took place in January. We have been eagerly awaiting this for several weeks and, after a long delay, it is on the [Manor High School](#) and [DfE](#) websites.

There is a great deal of which we can be rightly proud and this is reflected in the excellent feedback from parents, pupils and staff and from the inspection team throughout the report.

We are particularly pleased with the comments made by the team about leadership and governance of the school:

- *"School leaders have created a highly ambitious culture"*
- *"Leaders and governors have established a highly aspirational 11 to 16 school with a distinctive character and ethos".*

There is recognition of how well we have led and managed the process of change and the high level of challenge we provide for our GCSE classes across Years 9-11:

- *"Governors and school leaders have managed the change of age range exceptionally well, taking the local community with them"*
- *"Teachers prepare pupils well for examinations".*

Our curriculum and high level of challenge feature prominently:

- *"A demanding, well-taught curriculum helps pupils of different abilities to make strong progress and attain well"*
- *"Leaders are committed to providing a first-class standard of education for pupils"*
- *"The school's wider curriculum makes a strong contribution to pupils' personal development".*

Unsurprisingly, the inclusiveness and ethos of our school are strongly evidenced in the report and this is what makes Manor High School unique:

- *"Pupils are proud of their school"*
- *"Leaders have created a positive climate for learning. The school is a calm place"*
- *"Pupils from a wide range of backgrounds come together as a single community".*

Our pastoral systems and admissions processes were also praised for supporting our new students:

- *"The school has excellent transition arrangements. Pupils, including those with SEND, get off to a flying start at secondary school"*
- *"The school's tutoring arrangements mean that pupils of different ages socialise and work together. Younger children find this very reassuring"*
- *"The house system promotes healthy competition and develops pupils' resilience"*
- *"Pupils transferring to the school settle in quickly".*

Enjoy reading the report and thank you for the role that you have played in maintaining excellence and high levels of expectation in our school.



A Warm Welcome Awaits

March 1st is always an exciting day in our calendar, as it is when we find out who our new Year 7 intake will be. Each year our intake changes, with students gaining places at our school from near and far. However, we are always delighted to see students from the Oak MAT schools.

We held our first welcome event on Thursday 21 March, where we introduced the school to all our new students and families. Our Head Boy and Girl spoke to the families, along with senior leaders and some of our current Year 7 students. Every child was given a welcome pack in a handy drawstring bag (perfect for PE kits) and our senior and pastoral leaders were on hand to chat to all.

We had some lovely feedback from our new families:

"You made a great effort to help young people and adults to feel proud of their new school, to reassure the young people of how friendly the school is and to help allay any new school angst. I feel proud we have chosen Manor High School."



Our next event is our Transition Evening in May, where our staff spend time with each student getting to know them; their likes, dislikes, their friends and interests. This relaxed and friendly evening which is central to ensure a seamless transition to secondary school.

Our final event for this academic year, is our Induction Days when our new students join us for three fun-packed days where they are immersed in Manor High School life. They meet their new tutor groups, spend time in lessons with specialist teachers and then participate in our annual sports day. This is the first chance for our new students to influence the house competition and contribute to who wins the house cup.

Our new transition cycle starts again in September when we commence our regular Open Mornings and hold our annual Open Evening, where we showcase the school to primary children in the area. This is always an amazing night where students can get involved in hands-on experiments, food tastings, competitions and more. Dates will be confirmed shortly so watch this space!

Wellbeing Award

As a school we are proud to be working towards achieving the Wellbeing Award for Schools, which has been developed in partnership with the National Children's Bureau (NCB). The award is intended to help schools prepare and equip themselves to promote emotional wellbeing and positive mental health across the whole-school community.

The vision is to create an education system where good emotional wellbeing and mental health are at the heart of the culture and ethos of our school, so that our pupils, with the support of their teachers, can build confidence and flourish.

Gaining this award will help Manor High to ensure that highly effective provision is in place at our school to promote the emotional wellbeing and mental health of both staff and pupils. Evidence shows us that wellbeing is of central importance to learning and attainment, with high levels of wellbeing associated with improved academic outcomes.

As a school, we are proud of the many initiatives we already offer students. We promote positive mental health and wellbeing for everyone. Embarking on the award process demonstrates we recognise the needs and demands of our school are changing and we remain committed to responding to these.

GCSE Preparations

Manor High is just weeks away from an historic occasion in our 11-16 journey. In the 50th anniversary year, our first set of GCSEs will be sat by our first ever Year 11 cohort in May and June. Our preparations have been second to none, ensuring any gaps in knowledge have been filled and that every student is well supported both academically and emotionally for what the exams will bring.

Our preparations are not limited to Year 11 though. We work hard throughout each child's five year journey from Year 7 to Year 11 to ensure mastery in each subject and a positive attitude to learning. Our wide-ranging extra-curricular activities support each child's education and are designed to inspire and encourage in-depth knowledge. Our pastoral systems, including the PiXL Edge LORIC programme, ensure our students focus on their character building skills, including organisation, resilience and initiative, from the outset.

We know that success at Year 11 means focus and attention in every year of secondary education, not just Key Stage 4. We know all our students and that is what gives us the #MagicofManor.

"A very informative evening. A very friendly, caring school."



OVERDALE INFANT SCHOOL

Immersive Classrooms

Recently Year 1 turned their classrooms into different rooms of a space centre in order to allow the children to be fully immersed in a space environment. This was inspired by our recent Talk for Writing training where you start each writing module with a hook to inspire the children and improve the quality of their writing. All the schools in the OAK MAT have worked together on a writing moderation project with a space theme.



RE Story Week

In February we held our first R.E story week, each day the classes shared stories from different faiths. The week was very successful and helped to promote R.E, and celebrate diversity within our school. We also had a visit from the vicar of St Mary's church and a number of parents who shared R.E stories with the school in assembly. Following the children's work around R.E stories each class The children produced some art work which related to stories they had read and we used these stories as a theme for our corridor displays.

Eco-Schools Green Flag

Mrs Howard and our school have been awarded the coveted Green Flag. The Eco-Schools Green Flag is an internationally recognised award for excellence in environmental action and learning. Our Eco club have worked really hard to encourage the school and the wider community to take care of the environment. Eco club wanted to reduce the use of plastics

within school and identified the milk bottles and straws as a possible way to do this. They supported a change in milk supplier who have provided the school with cups so we no longer need to use plastic straws. Our milk is also delivered in larger milk bottles instead of individual milk bottles and has significantly reduced the use of plastic in school. The photograph above shows Councillor Adam Clarke (Deputy City Mayor), Mrs Howard, Mrs Stuart (Headteacher) and our Eco-club proudly displaying the Green Flag.

Science Week

As part of our Science week celebrations KS1 had a visit from JuniorSTEM! They took part in a hands-on Cool Cars workshop where they learnt how to make a car and a spinning machine using Lego WeDo and motors. During the sessions, our children had the opportunity to use and apply their coding skills. Parents and carers were invited to take part in the sessions and the workshops were very well attended.

Our children in Foundation Stage have taken part in story based sessions with Sphere Science. The theme for Science week this year is Terrific Transport and we have had several visits from people in the community who work within the field of transport and science.

New Pre-School

The privately run pre-school on the Overdale site, formerly know at The Willows, was taken over by the Trust and re-opened as the Overdale Pre-School at the beginning of the 2018/19 academic year. A very recent capital investment has significantly improved the pre-school grounds and the staff work closely with the Infant school, who have educational oversight of the setting, to help maintain and improve the quality of the provision.



OVERDALE JUNIOR SCHOOL

Maths Marvels

Our current maths practice has been noticed on Twitter and this led to the school being contacted by Sharon Grinham from Oxford Owl University, with the prospect of becoming an advocate school for Numicon.

On Tuesday 5th March, we had a Numicon focused maths session, where Sharon came to discuss maths and see our practice with a particular interest in our concrete-pictorial-abstract approach. It was fantastic to see: Year 3 learning about fraction of amounts; Year 4 learning about decimals; Year 5 learning about finding areas of rectilinear shapes and Year 6 exploring ratio.

As well as this, we have been trialling 'Plickers' which we were able to showcase in two classrooms. This enables teachers to get instant feedback on misconceptions the children may have. This technology blew Mr Evans' mind when he saw it in practice in 5D. Our visitor was extremely impressed with the attitude towards learning and the outcomes our mixed ability sets are providing for the children. Thank you to Mr Ellis, Miss Smith and staff for your continued dedication to raising standards and the profile of maths across the school.

EcOverdale

At Overdale Junior School, we are trying to look at the environment: both locally and around the world. We are working with Eco Schools to be sustainable in all areas of our school's life. Recently, we obtained our silver award and earned our second Green Flag as part of Eco Schools at the end of November 2018

EcOverdale, our eco committee, have been as busy as ever this school year. Many of EcOverdale's activities are going on

behind the scenes but there are a number of new initiatives that we hope you are aware of and taking part in. Did you know we have schemes to recycle your old pens and crisp packets for example? We also have Two-Wheeler Tuesday every week and are taking part in Big Pedal day! Please visit our Eco page on the school website for the full 2019 Eco Review including details of all the schemes we are involved in.

Musical Messages

It has been a pleasure to be able to share in some lovely musical moments this term. Our current theme is 'Name That Tune' and as a very musical school, it gives all of our pupils the opportunity to experience and celebrate the variety of music that our pupils and staff enjoy. It was a delight to listen to Miss Tamhne perform a vocal duet with her singing friend Laura Ratcliffe during one of our assemblies. The performance left the whole school moved and lifted everyone's spirits which set us up perfectly for an excellent day of learning. In other assemblies, staff are sharing their favourite music and it is lovely to see the wide range being shared. We really do value the contributions the arts can bring to our lives as much as the outdoors, technology, health, fitness and academic achievements to engage and develop our pupils.

Science Week

On Friday 8th March we had a very exciting start to Science week. The whole school got to see a workshop presented by Professor Nitrate from the Education Group. He demonstrated a number of experiments in front of the children such as making fire and launching rockets using equipment such as coke, mentos, heat and balloons. Each session was extremely exciting and we look forward to seeing what else Science week brings.



Woodland Grange Primary School

We've got the power!

The School Council have been on an amazing trip to London. They had the opportunity to visit the Palace of Westminster (The Houses of Parliament) and learnt all about how our country is governed.

During the day they had a behind the scenes tour around the House of Commons and House of Lords and found out about the history of government, including the Suffragette movement, the role of the Monarchy and more current issues such as Brexit. We even got to meet Rt Hon. Neil O'Brien, MP for Oadby, Wigston & Harborough.

The staff at the education centre said that our children were a credit to the school and it was a real treat for staff to accompany them on this fascinating day.

Special thanks to Mrs Bailey & Mrs Howard who accompanied us on this trip.

FUZE coding workshop

During half term we welcomed a company called FUZE who organised a computing workshop for pupils. The workshop consisted of hands on sessions incorporating different aspects of coding and computer science and everyone had a brilliant time! FUZE said "The attendees present were some of the brightest and best groups we've had in quite some time. Teachers should feel very proud of the skills that the children showed. We are keen to work with Woodland Grange in the future!"

We really value additional educational experiences and pupils gained a lot from the session. We look forward to welcoming FUZE back in the future.

Great British Spring Clean

Pupils from Woodland Grange took part in the Great British Spring Clean on Friday 28 March. Organised by Keep Britain Tidy, our #LitterHeroes joined with those across the country to improve the environment on their doorstep. Over 500,000 volunteers have joined the campaign, including Manor High School, whose students we bumped into during our litter pick.

Armed with bin bags and litter pickers our eco-students went forth into the community and managed to collect a massive amount of waste, much of which was recyclable. Well done to all involved and keep up the good work.

Slam Dunk

Our school basketball team were lucky enough to play an exhibition match at the Leicester Arena; home of the legendary Leicester Riders! On Friday 5th April they played in front of a packed crowd during the Riders v. Royals match. At the interval they took to the court and were cheered on by the fans. They played against Kibworth Primary and came away with a 6-2 victory, amazing!

Earlier on in the spring term they had come through a series of nail biting matches narrowly beating an excellent team from Brookside in extra time. Next, they travelled to Robert Smyth Academy where they played in the area finals narrowly losing to Glenmere. From that our team had the opportunity to play at the home of the Leicester Riders, something that they didn't want to miss! The team had a fantastic time and got their photograph taken with the team (as well as a few autographs!)

In every match the team not only played well but also worked together and showed amazing team spirit, even offering their place in the starting line up so that another child could take part. They were a credit to the school.



Upcoming events

April

EASTER HOLIDAYS

Monday 15—Friday 26 April
All Schools

May

MAY DAY HOLIDAY

Monday 6 May
All Schools

KS1 & KS2 SATS EXAMS

Monday 13 - Friday 17 May
All Primary Schools

GCSE EXAMS

From Monday 13 May - Tuesday 18 June
(Contingency date Wednesday 26 June)
Manor High School

WALK TO SCHOOL WEEK

Monday 20 - Friday 25 May
All Schools

ORIENTATION EVENING

Thursday 23 May 6-8pm
Manor High School

HALF TERM HOLIDAY

Monday 27—Friday 31 May
All Schools

June

TEACHER TRAINING DAY

Monday 3 June
All Primary Schools

YEAR 11 LEAVERS PROM @ THE EXCHANGE

Thursday 20 June
Manor High School

SUMMER FETE

Saturday 22 June
Overdale Junior School

OAK MAT TEACH MEET

Tuesday 25 June 3.30-5.30pm
Stamford Court, Leicester

BROOKSIDE SUMMER FAYRE

Saturday 29 June
Brookside Primary School

FoWG FUN DAY

Sunday 30 June
Woodland Grange Primary School



July

INDUCTION DAYS

Monday 8 –Wednesday 10 July
Manor High School

YEAR 2 LEAVERS CONCERT

Monday 8 and Tuesday 9 July
Overdale Infant School

KS1 AND KS2 RESULTS DAY

During the week of 8 July
All Primary Schools

LEAVERS DISCO

Thursday 11 July 5.30pm (Year 2) 7pm (Year 6)
Overdale Junior School

SUMMER HOLIDAYS START

Thursday 11 July:
Brookside Primary School, Manor High School and
Woodland Grange Primary School
Friday 12 July:
Overdale Infant School, Overdale Junior School



August

GCSE RESULTS DAY

Thursday 22 August 10am-1pm
Manor High School

AUTUMN TERM STARTS

Wednesday 28 August:
Manor High School
Thursday 29 August:
All Primary Schools

Oak Multi-Academy Trust Summer Events

Overdale Junior School Summer Fete

Saturday 22 June

Brookside Primary School Summer Fayre

Saturday 29 June

Woodland Grange Primary School Fun Day

Sunday 30 June

*Save the
date*



Follow and like

Brookside Primary School

www.brookside.leics.sch.uk

 @OadbyBrookside

Manor High School

www.manorhigh.leics.sch.uk

 @manorhighschool

 @manorhighschooladby

Overdale Infant School

www.overdale-inf.leicester.sch.uk/

 @OverdaleInfantSchool

Overdale Junior School

www.overdale-jun.leicester.sch.uk

 @ojsinfo

 @OverdaleJuniorSchool

Woodland Grange Primary

www.woodlandwideweb.org.uk

 @Woodland_Grange

