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Rudheath
Primary Academy
and Nursery

2nd June 2026

Platinum Award

Dear Parents/Carers

I am thrilled to let you know that after 18 months of hard work from staff, children and parents we have been awarded the OPAL Platinum Award. This is the highest level you can be awarded! We scored an amazing 92 out of 100!

Our final assessment took place at the end of last term and the OPAL team commented that:

> Rudheath has achieved a Platinum OPAL award with a score of 92%, reflecting the **significant progress** the school has made in **developing a rich, inclusive and sustainable culture of play**. There is a strong sense that the OPAL approach is now **embedded across the life of the school**, with **children experiencing much greater freedom, a more diverse play offer, and adults who are increasingly confident in supporting play through a balanced risk-benefit approach**. The opening up of the forest school area has added **real depth to the site, extending opportunities for adventurous, imaginative and nature-based play**, while the continued development of loose parts provision, social spaces and wheeled play has helped ensure that **children of different ages, interests and play styles can all find something of value in playtimes**. Just as importantly, the changes made are underpinned by **strong leadership, clear systems and a commitment to ongoing development**. The school has **all the essential structures in place to sustain high-quality playtimes over the long term**, while the next stage of development is about extending some areas of provision further so that the scale and richness of what is available is fully consistent across the whole site.

We aim to continue to develop that our provision to ensure that the 'richness of what is available is fully consistent across the whole site.'

Please can I take the opportunity to thank all the staff who understood and embraced the importance of OPAL for our children, the parents who have supported us providing loose parts, the PTA Stars whose funding continually helps us to purchase the equipment and works needed to improve our grounds and most of all the children who have engaged and accessed all the OPAL equipment so sensibly

and carefully.

Please remember that if you have any loose parts, old wheeled equipment, suitcases etc then we'd love them to help develop our provision further.

Kind regards

Andrew Ross
Headteacher