



## Outdoor Play and Learning (OPAL) CIC

Dear Chellaston Junior School,

It is with great pleasure and admiration that we extend our heartfelt congratulations to you all on achieving the **OPAL Platinum Award**—the highest level of OPAL accreditation. This exceptional achievement reflects a deep and sustained commitment to transforming childhood through the power of outdoor play.

Platinum status is a rare and remarkable recognition. It is not simply a badge of honour, but a testament to a school culture that values play as essential, joyful, and central to the daily lives of children. It speaks to your unwavering belief in the importance of creativity, inclusivity, and child-led exploration.

At Chellaston Junior School, there is so much to celebrate, but three aspects of your provision stand out as particularly inspiring:

1. Your **diverse range of play opportunities** ensures that every child can find their place, their passion, and their joy. From imaginative games to high-energy challenges, your play offer honours the many ways children choose to play.



T: 01761 462991 M: 07870 284517 E: [opalcic@opalcic.org](mailto:opalcic@opalcic.org)

[www.outdoorplayandlearning.org.uk](http://www.outdoorplayandlearning.org.uk)



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OpalOutdoorplay

Registered Office: Dingle Cottage, Street End Lane, Blagdon, Bristol, BS40 7TW Company No: 7659212 VAT No: 207537807

Children & Young People Now Awards 2023

Winner



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2. The **thoughtful and ambitious development of your grounds** has created an environment that **invites exploration across the entire site**. There is a sense of wonder and discovery woven into every corner—a true playground in the fullest sense of the word.
3. The **level of risky play** available is exactly what your most active and adventurous children need. By trusting them to climb, build, balance, and test their boundaries, you are giving them the tools to grow in confidence, resilience, and independence.

This accomplishment is the result of strong and visionary leadership from your Headteacher, the dedication and creativity of your staff and play team, and the enthusiasm and spirit of your pupils. Together, you have created a culture of play that is as vibrant as it is inclusive.

The impact on your children is clear: they are more confident, curious, and connected. They are learning not just through lessons, but through joyful play—developing the physical, social, and emotional skills that will carry them forward in all areas of life.



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Chellaston Junior School now stands proudly as a beacon of best practice in play. Your work is an inspiration to others and a reminder of what is possible when we put play where it belongs—at the heart of school life.

With professional warmth and our very best wishes,

**Bobby Beaumont**

*Director, OPAL East Midlands*



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