

Since Mr. Allan has started at New Oak, we've introduced new initiatives and reward systems that we're really excited to tell you all about.

Restorative Practice (RP)

Restorative Practice is our method of dealing with misbehaviour and is based on two key aspects:

- Our belief in the importance of maintaining positive, open relationships.
- The idea that everyone is different.

If an incident ever occurs, we involve everybody relevant to said incident, so they can: acknowledge responsibility, repair harm, foster respect and strengthen both formal and informal relationships.

At OA New Oak, RP is used to discuss children's behaviours around the structure of 5 key questions:

- 1. Can you tell me what happened?
- 2. What was going through your head when it happened?
- 3. Who was affected by your actions?
- 4. How can you repair the relationships you have broken?
- 5. What can we do differently next time?

We ensure these conversations happen in a regulated, safe space for all involved.

Restorative Practice helps us to empathise with our pupils' emotions, which in turn helps children feel accepted and not shame, rejection or exclusion. The goal of RP is to make all our pupils feel safe to express and regulate themselves appropriately, which in turn helps them to build positive relationships with their peers and the community around them.



Family Dining

At OA New Oak, we use Family Dining as a means to emulate a respectful and responsible dining experience for our pupils at lunchtime. It involves these basic principles:

- Having a variety of year groups on each table.
- Pupils create conversation cards to encourage to learn all about each other.
- Pupils on each table have different roles e.g. putting out the water.

Setting the tables up in this way has multiple benefits:

- Pupils mingle and converse with a wider variety of people across the school. Through this, more friendships are born and New Oak becomes an even greater, inclusive community.
- Older pupils can look after and mentor the younger pupils, which helps them develop compassion, kindness and empathy.
- The table roles that pupils are given promote ideas of cooperation and responsibility.

We also promote traditional table etiquette and manners to the children, for instance:

- Ensuring pupils wait for everyone to sit down before starting their meal.
- Everyone at the table works together to tidy and clean up once everyone has finished eating.

We are pleased to report that Family Dining has resulted in a calmer, more respectful dining room and less wastage, as the children are no longer rushing to finish the meals and get out to the playground.













