



**SCHOOL INFORMATION
ACADEMIC YEAR
2012/2013**

OLDFIELDS HALL MIDDLE SCHOOL





Dear Parent or Carer

Thank you very much for your interest in Oldfields Hall Middle School. This school has probably never been a better place to learn and work and I am determined to continue to improve everything we offer here for you and your children.

The school values below inform everything we do:

**AT OLDFIELDS HALL MIDDLE SCHOOL WE:
RESPECT OTHERS
ENRICH LIVES
MAKE A DIFFERENCE**

Teachers and support staff work hard to provide every child here between the ages of 9 - 13 (Years 5 to 8) with a caring atmosphere. They provide many opportunities to help children develop themselves, their talents and their interests. We have good specialist facilities and hard working staff with real enthusiasm for their subjects.

As you will see, Oldfields Hall is an imposing Victorian mansion, built around 1867, set in extensive and beautiful grounds. It is the background to everything we do and we use it to its full advantage.

Much more information is available on the school website www.oldfields.org.uk including many photos showing the school at work.

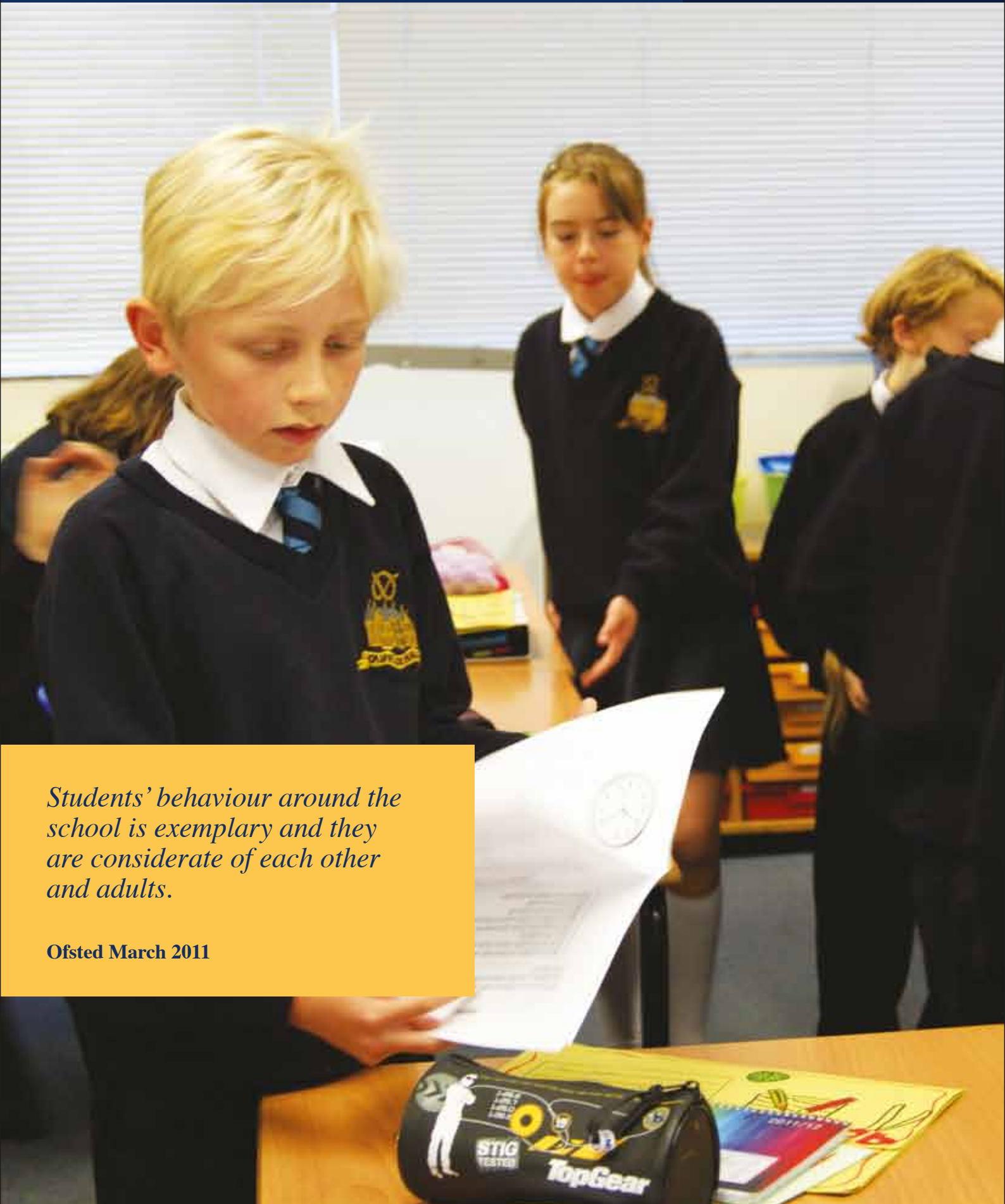
Please look at this prospectus or contact me for an appointment or an informal conversation if you would like to find out more.

Best Wishes,

Nicholas Brown

Nicholas Brown
Headteacher





Students' behaviour around the school is exemplary and they are considerate of each other and adults.

Ofsted March 2011



The Funshine Club – Before and After School Care

We work in partnership with The Funshine Club to provide “wraparound” affordable and safe childcare on our school site from 7.30am to 6pm.

Facilities

We have beautiful and extensive grounds surrounding Oldfields Hall, which is a large Victorian house. Ofsted (2011) said “Students respond well to their imposing surroundings” and “Students hold doors for others and wait politely for them to descend the impressive curved staircase which is a feature of the old hall”. Our newer buildings are described as “bright, clean and attractive.”

The school has won awards several years running for its gardens and grounds, achieved through involvement of students and families. Students also benefit from other wonderful resources including an adventure area (the O-Zone), different patio areas for different age-groups and picnic areas. We have a recently built Astroturf, extensive playing fields and a sports track with magnificent views. Our curriculum is enhanced by innovative resources including 3 ICT resource centres, an attractive, well stocked and up-to-date library and a range of Apple Mac computers for creative subjects.

Community and Governors

We work hard to be a community school and encourage students to be committed citizens through initiatives in which enable students to care for our local environment and community. Our extensive transition programme is appreciated by local contributory schools. We foster a caring approach through the support of a number of charities chosen by the children. Our active and supportive team of school governors help us continuously to improve what we offer to children and parents at the school.

The School Curriculum

We provide a broad and balanced curriculum for all children and aim to make learning varied and interesting. Information is sent home every term outlining the topics covered in all subject areas.

Children are timetabled from the start with specialist teachers, though Year 5 classes are taught in their area as much as possible.

- *As soon as children start in Year 5, they are placed in ability groups for Maths and English.*
- *Some lesson groups are taught in mixed ability classes: most practical subject groups especially further up the school have smaller class sizes.*
- *Swimming instruction takes place at Uttoxeter Leisure Centre if children are not able to swim 25 metres.*



The arrangements for easing students' transition in joining the school and on moving on to their next school are a strength which parents and carers comment positively about.

Ofsted March 2011



& MAKE A DIFFERENCE

The extent to which students feel safe is outstanding. Incidents of oppressive behaviour are rare and students say these are dealt with very well when they occur.

Ofsted March 2011





School visits – providing broader and more enjoyable learning experiences:

The school is proud of the wide range and variety of the Extra Activities on offer to students which broaden the curriculum. We offer a half week residential outdoor education course at Laches Wood Centre to Year 5 students and a week-long residential outdoor education programme is also offered to Year 7 students at the Standon Bowers Centre.

A few examples: in Year 5 last year there was a day trip to Derby Museum and to Little Moreton Hall; Year 6 went to see a Christmas Pantomime, Year 7 visited Warwick Castle for a day and also Standon Bowers Outdoor Education Centre for a week, and Year 7 and Year 8 both had the opportunity to enter the “Young Chef of the Year” challenge. Year 8 were inspired to write poetry by Richard Grant, the Birmingham Poet Laureate. There is an annual Music residential weekend at Ingestre Hall.

PE and Sport Success

PE and Games have a very high profile at Oldfields Hall. Games clubs run almost every day at lunchtime and after school. There is a huge enthusiasm for sport and many school sporting teams regularly play matches against other local schools. Sports Day in July celebrated a mixture of whole school participation and athletics events.

Oldfields Hall Middle School won the Uttoxeter Area Schools’ Competition Award 2011 and several of our students were individual medal winners. Our dance team was selected to perform at the awards ceremony.

In the Uttoxeter area we are:

- *Champions – Uttoxeter torch relay*
- *Champions – Middle School Games*
- *Champions – Middle School Swimming gala*

In addition we are:

- *Year 5 & 6 girls’ football – Burton area champions, second in Staffordshire*
- *Year 5 & 6 girls’ netball - Burton area champions*
- *Year 7 football – County Cup runners up*
- *Year 7 football league – runners up*
- *Year 8 Rugby – 4th in Staffordshire*
- *Year 5 & 6 Indoor Athletics – 2nd in Burton area*

This year 24 Oldfields Hall students were selected for the East Staffordshire athletics team, and 2 students have gone on to represent Staffordshire.



There is good provision and take-up of opportunities to be active within the curriculum and through a range of lunchtime and after school pursuits. Compliments were paid by parents and carers to the good quality of the school catering which helps students eat healthily.

Ofsted March 2011



Special Educational Needs:

Special Educational Needs (SEN) is a whole school issue and all teachers are teachers of students with SEN, providing a broad, balanced and relevant education. We adopt a graduated response in order to match special educational needs to the appropriate level of intervention.

We make full use of available classroom-based and school-based resources before referral to outside agencies. Meetings are arranged during the year to support parents organised by Mrs McMulkin, our Special Needs Co-ordinator (SENCO).

Sex and Relationships Education

This is taught as an integral part of the Science teaching programme in Year 7, and is a part of the Citizenship programme in Year 8. The Science element covers aspects of human physical and emotional development. Year 7 parents are invited to an evening where the course materials and the television programmes are discussed. If you need further information, please contact the school office.

Respect is important at Oldfields Hall

In assemblies and in our day to day dealings with students we regularly reinforce a message of respect for others. This is highlighted especially every year during National Anti-Bullying Week. Every year we train a selection of Year 8 students as Peer Counsellors who support Year 5 students to settle in during their first two terms, for example, by running a Friendship Club. Peer Counsellors also make themselves available to support students with problems in all year groups. This aspect of the school has been consistently praised by OFSTED inspectors in their reports and our Peer Counsellors were awarded the Princess Diana Memorial Anti Bullying Award again last June.

The school actively opposes racism and discrimination.

The school nurse visits on a regular basis offering confidential one to one counselling sessions if students choose to drop in. If you are concerned that your child is unhappy at school for whatever reason, please contact your child's class teacher or Progress Manager as soon as possible. There are many things we can do to make a difference.

Oldfields Hall Parents, Staff and Friends Association – the PSFA

Last year the PSFA organised:

- *A welcome evening for new parents early in the Autumn Term.*
- *The Christmas Fair held towards the end of the Autumn Term which raised around £2000.*
- *3 collections of clothes from "Bag2School".*
- *2 well attended school discos for Oldfields Hall students.*
- *Our big Summer Event was an outdoor Summer Fair in July with extra outdoor attractions including the Abbots Bromley Horn Dancers who danced with the teachers!*
- *In addition, PSFA members helped with the organisation of many school events.*

Last year our fundraising efforts bought an additional Apple Mac computer for the Music Room, an upgrade to the projector and whiteboard in the New Lab and some language teaching equipment. The PSFA also contributed to developing the O-Zone outdoor activity area and the Tile Wall outside reception and paid for other important smaller "extras" for the children.

Parents and carers of students are automatically members, but there are elected officers, a committee and a number of occasional volunteers for those who wish to be more involved with the fund-raising events. "Friends" are members of the extended school community who have left us. All school employees are also automatically members.

Suggestions, Concerns & Complaints

Parents and school have a shared interest and responsibility for children's education and it is very important that this should be based on trust and mutual respect. Although difficulties may arise, we hope that we are approachable enough to resolve most problems.

Most everyday suggestions or concerns are best dealt with by contacting the member of staff most directly involved via your child's Personal Organiser. Alternatively, you can telephone the school office to request an appointment, especially if the concern is confidential. If any problem has not been resolved after doing this, please contact the headteacher.

In exceptional cases, if the matter is still unresolved after seeing the headteacher, you can send a formal letter to the Chair of Governors via the school office. Please see the school website under "Extra Pages" for further details of our Complaints Procedure.

The head, deputy head and assistant head run a series of "drop in" sessions - no appointments are needed - during the year for parents to discuss any aspect of school life. There is also a suggestion box in the school reception.

If you need any further information the best place to look is the school website www.oldfields.org.uk for:

- *News and newsletters*
- *Many photos of recent school activities*
- *How to apply for a school place*
- *Much more detail on routines and procedures in the full prospectus section*
- *Policy statements, including our Special Educational Needs Policy.*
- *The Funshine Club*
- *"Departments" and "Course Summaries" for each area of learning*
- *Religious Education arrangements*
- *And much more!*

If you would like to know more, please contact the school office – 01889 562770 – to arrange a visit to look around and see what we could offer your child.

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OLDFIELDS HALL
MIDDLE SCHOOL

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Website: www.oldfields.org.uk

Headteacher: Mr D.N. Brown M.A.

Chair of Governors: Mrs C. Postlethwaite

