



OPAL 3 Year Action Plan



By June 2023

1. Field open all year round
Equal access to the field and playground. Rules in place for footwear and clothing to ensure safety, comfort and cleanliness of children and tidiness of the school.
2. Loose parts
Loose parts collected – large variety, plentiful supply, safety checks in place (small world play, dolls, cars, building bricks etc). Donations requested.
3. Ball sports
Segregation of the play area, to enable all children to play safely, with an allocated space for football and other ball sports. Football contract agreed with the children and renewed each year.
4. Mud kitchen
Mud kitchen built and rules decided upon by children in Play Assembly. Pallets and items (pots, pans, spoons, microwaves) donated.
5. Water play
Water play area set up and rules decided upon by children in Play Assembly. Water play toys donated.
6. Wet weather clothing
Wet weather clothing added to the school uniform list for all children. All children require a minimum of a waterproof coat and wellies, to be in school all year round. Waterproof trousers or puddle suits desired. A bank of spare waterproof clothing and wellies to be built up and available for all children.
7. Construction area
Construction area to be set up and filled with woodchip, for digger toy play. Tyres and woodchip donated.
8. Digging area
Digging areas to be identified and rules for use of digging tools agreed with children.



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9. Small cosy spaces
Small areas created or identified around the playing space, for children to play in small groups.
10. Kayaks
Area for kayaks created and delineated by tyres. Rules for kayaks agreed with children. Tyres and kayaks donated. Wood chipping inside donated.
11. Tyre planters by Guide Hut
Tyres to be used as planters to be put alongside the Guide Hut side of the playground. Tyres donated. Fundraising required for compost and plants.
12. OPAL Helpers
Children from Years 3, 4, 5 and 6 volunteer as Play Helpers, to help in the Play Store during play time. Play Helpers changed weekly and announced in Play Assembly.
13. Stage area
Stage to be built at the end of the Play Store, on the field, to give children an elevated platform to perform and play on. Pallets donated. Parent help to build.
14. Storage in play store
Boxes / crates to be labelled for ease of tidying up. Fundraising required.
15. Tyre mountain and slide
Tyre mountain with slide to be built to provide climbing opportunities. Tyres donated. Parent help for building the tyre mountain.
16. Racquet sports and other ball games
Plastic tennis racquets, sticky catch pads, various balls, catching scoops, skipping ropes freely available. Donations requested, old PE equipment moved to OPAL.
17. Den making zone
Vertical pallets installed along the left hand edge of the field to create den making zone. Dens allowed anywhere on the site, but pallets to provide a starting point for children to build on. Fundraising required for posts, pallets donated.



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- 1. Sandpits**
Large sandpit built in the 'dunes' area. Rules decided upon by children in Play Assembly. Smaller sandpit created in the Chill Out corner. Fundraising required. Tyres donated for outside of large sandpit. Parent help with digging.
- 2. Small playground roadway**
Line markings and furniture to create a small town area in the small playground (OPAL Town) – car wash, garage, roadside shops, zebra crossing etc. Fundraising required.
- 3. Wheelie play**
Bikes, trikes and scooters stored in the shed in the small playground and used on a regular basis. Rules decided upon by children in Play Assembly. Donations requested.
- 4. Small world areas**
Small world areas created with storage nearby.
- 5. Small loose parts storage**
Outdoor storage containers for small loose parts and small world play located in various positions around the field. Repurpose existing containers.
- 6. Tidy Team**
Year 4, 5 and 6 children asked to volunteer to be part of the OPAL Tidy Team, to help tidy up the OPAL Corridor at the end of lunchtime. Children chosen, and changed, each week/fortnight at OPAL Assembly.
- 7. Play Rangers**
Children from Year 5 and 6 to be recruited as OPAL Play Rangers, with various roles and responsibilities (to be discussed and agreed with the Play Rangers), such as assisting in OPAL Assemblies, litter picking, taking photographs, supporting and helping Play Helpers and setting a good example for other children during play.



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8. Outdoor speakers – upgraded
Upgrade outdoor speakers from Makita wired speaker, to a weatherproof, wireless speaker, with a better range. Fundraising required.
9. Cosy spaces – medium and large
Medium and large areas created or identified around the playing space, for children to play in small, medium or large groups.
10. Den making materials available all year round, with outdoor storage
Weather resistant den making materials available, with outdoor storage (such as tarpaulins), all year round, in addition to the fabric that is available during the drier months. Donations requested.
11. Increased storage in Play Store
Large boxes/stalls built for large plastic items to be store safely and easily in the Play Store. Fundraising required.
12. Chill out area
Tyre planters in the Sensory Horseshoe to be planted with herbs, flowers and tactile plants for a sensory experience and a calming environment. Fundraising required, donations requested.
13. Arts and crafts area
Quiet area identified / created for reading and crafting.
14. Loose parts storage – pallets, crates, barrels, planks
Areas around the edge of the field identified as safe and tidy storage places for larger loose parts.
15. Music making
Music wall to be built at the back of the field. Pots and pans from donations.
16. Tyre and pallet constructions
Additional elements of the trim trail created, using tyres.
Pallet furniture (chair) built in a cosy space.



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17. Journey pathways

Creation and installation of tyre pathways between cosy spaces and play elements on the field.

18. Tunnels created

Pipe and tyre tunnels built on the field. Tunnels and tyres donated.

19. Water play

Additional, winter, area created, by the Dunes area. Water butt to be used, and filled and emptied each week, to avoid stagnation of water. Water play items from donations.

20. Welly storage and wet weather gear

Improved welly boot and wet weather clothing storage across the school
Classes asked for their suggestions, for the best solution for their class. Additional clothes hanging and welly boot storage provided, where possible, and where required.

21. Something special for your school / Big transport feature

Build a Pirate Ship near the dunes. Using donated pallets and wood.

22. Something special for your school.

Create a large, CD fish, as a project with Year 6 children. CDs from donations.

23. Mounds and heights

Children can play on the uneven dunes area (mounds) and other play equipment to create height – pirate ship, gymnastics bars.

24. Small world

Small world area created in the Chill Out corner. Small world items donated.



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1. Upper body climbing
Traverse wall to be created on the long side of the PE container with varying heights of hand holds to enable access for all. Contact F51 climbing in Folkestone in relation to the possibility of sponsorship or donation.
2. Sports and gymnastics.
Installation of an inground trampoline to provide additional sporting and gymnastics opportunities. Fundraising required.
3. Gymnastics
Gymnastics hanging bars to be installed near the trim trail. Fundraising required.
4. Natural Rewilding
Rewilding area to include wildflower meadow, sensory areas and cosy spaces. Play area grass allowed to grow long, and not mown all over. Wildflower seeds donated.
5. Gymnastics and chill out
Nest swing installed under the picnic bench canopy and possibly the Chill Out corner canopy. Fundraising required.
6. Upper body climbing and gymnastics
Larger hanging bars or climbing frame installed to provide more challenging opportunities. Fundraising required.