

Congratulations to Tysoe CE Primary School

OPAL Platinum Award – July 2025

Huge congratulations to everyone at Tysoe CE Primary School on achieving your OPAL Platinum Award. This is a fantastic accomplishment for the entire school community and places Tysoe among the very best primary schools in the country for the quality of their outdoor play. It reflects your commitment to upholding children's right to play, as enshrined in Article 31 of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child.

The OPAL journey at Tysoe has been driven by a dedicated Working Party, including Head Teacher Paige Allister, Curricular Lead for Play Jodie Simpson, and Play Coordinator Crystal Burnett, supported by OPAL Parent Ambassador Mrs. Crosweller and Play Governor Lis Stuart. Their leadership and dedication have been instrumental in transforming play across the school, working both inside the school and across the outdoor play spaces. Pupils have been meaningfully involved throughout, with a strong sense of pupil voice helping to shape and influence developments.

The school grounds have been imaginatively developed and opened up for rich and varied play. Highlights include a woodland area, a reflection garden, and ensuring the substantial field remains open all year round. The engagement of parents and carers has also been invaluable, from donating recycled loose parts to providing waterproof coats and welly boots, helping children to embrace outdoor play in all weathers.

The play offer at Tysoe is now truly exceptional. Children enjoy a large sandpit, den-building materials, art activities, a weaving station, and a bell tent for quiet reading and crafts. Three large mounds provide endless fun for leaping and rolling, and during the final observation, the entire school community could be seen playing together. There was a genuine sense of inclusion, joy, and belonging right across the site.

This Platinum Award is a reflection of your passion, hard work, and belief in the power of play. Congratulations to every member of the Tysoe CE Primary School community – this is an achievement you should feel incredibly proud of.

Rachel Murray
OPAL Mentor
July 2025