

OFLAC

oak farm leisure and activities club

General Information

Staff

Co-ordinator – Bobbie Englefield

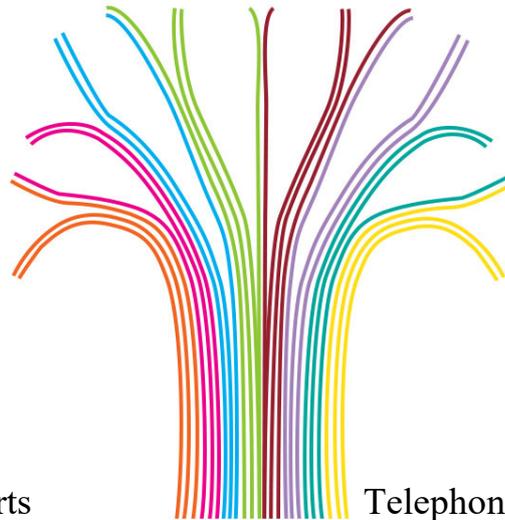
Cover Co-ordinator – Sabrina Bell

Admin/Support Worker – Annette Hall

Support Worker – Colette Hall

Support Worker – Shanie Landess

Administrator – Julie Kavanagh



Samuel Cody Specialist Sports
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Background Information

OFLAC was started back in 1985 by a volunteer member of Scope and a parent – in the early years it was funded by Scope.

It was set up in response to a lack of provision in the area for young adults with special needs.

The club aims to provide a diverse range of activities, enabling members to develop their leisure time by engaging in social, recreational and educational activities.

The club has gone from strength to strength since its early days and is currently funded by Hampshire and Surrey Social Services. Members come to us by a referral from their Social Service Care Managers. OFLAC is recognised for providing a significant service to young adults with a learning disability.

Social Services fund six part-time members of staff who are supported by an excellent team of volunteers.

We need to offer a diverse programme of activities and require equipment and resources to deliver this, so we are continually raising our own funds and applying for grants for specialist activities and trips.

Where we meet

Samuel Cody Specialist Sports College, Ballantyne Road, Farnborough

When

Mondays	10am–4pm
Fridays	10am–4pm

We also meet on a number of selected days throughout the year for social events, trips and special activities.

What we offer

Monday (10am–4pm)

The group engage in a variety of activities including tutor-led sessions in dance, I.T., social skills, drama, money and budgeting skills.

The members can achieve recognised certificates in chosen subjects. We also have a variety of activities on a rolling programme – art, drama, skittles, crafts, jewellery-making, gardening (OFLAC have their own garden), we have fun on the Wii, and one of the most popular pastimes – quizzes, to name a few!

Friday (10am–4pm)

This is a day for arts and sports. Typically, we offer drama sessions in the morning with workshops that lead to productions in-house twice a year and at local theatres (in the dance galas).

We also offer football coaching and sports activities with the MPC (Military Preparation College).

Drama, arts and sport are proven to help build social skills, confidence and teamwork, encouraging our members to develop and grow in many areas of their lives, promoting independence and enhancing their ability to lead happy and fulfilled lives.

As well as the above, we have regular social events for which we fundraise. These include discos, karaoke, live bands, visits from speakers, barbecues, themed days and parties, seasonal trips including Ascot, the seaside, Christmas craft markets and Christmas lights.

Who attends?

Young adults with a learning disability living in North East Hants and West Surrey. Most referrals come through Social Services from their Care Manager.

Our members have a variety of learning disabilities. Each member has their own individual needs and some are more complex than others. They are, however, an amazing group of young people with a vast array of abilities and great social skills. OFLAC enables them to develop their abilities and gives them an opportunity to feel valued and make new friends with their peers.

We are core funded by Social Services, but, for other projects and to extend what we offer, we have to continually fundraise. Money raised enables us to offer our members opportunities that their able-bodied peers take for granted. We try to ensure fulfilment and enjoyment during their time at OFLAC with a wide range of interests and activities.

We are assisted by a band of valuable volunteers who are able to input their many skills and experiences. They bring with them up-to-date knowledge, which ensures an interesting mix of ages and abilities. Our volunteers come from all walks of life, enabling diversity with their support.

The members of staff are always prepared to meet with any organisation interested in giving us presentations – visitors are always welcome to our club sessions.

Anyone who comes through the door remarks on the friendly and warm atmosphere. OFLAC members are a group of young people that are a privilege to know.