



### OUR DIRECTOR & PRINCIPAL KATHIE SHAW, MSW, RSW, BCBA.

The vision for Oak Bridge Academy comes from Kathie Shaw. Kathie has been working in the field of autism and Applied Behaviour Analysis since 1993, and operates a private clinic for children with autism in Waterloo. Over the years, Kathie has worked with hundreds of families, and recognizes the need for the integration of school and therapy. She has seen several families leave the area due to the lack of educational support and has long wanted to start a school to meet the needs of our community.

Kathie was passionate about bringing an alternative school to Waterloo Region. Oak Bridge Academy uses a model that has shown great success in Illinois and is using the principles of Applied Behaviour Analysis, Acceptance and Commitment Therapy. Academics and following the Ontario Curriculum is a core focus and an important part of each day. Mindfulness and working to be flexible, are the skills and strategies that are intertwined throughout the day and incorporated into all learning activities. These skills include; **initiation, organizational strategies, interpersonal skills, collaboration, self-regulation and responsibility.**

Kathie believes that these are the skills that support our kids in being successful in school and in life. She ensures that these are the skills that are pivotal in all teaching at Oak Bridge Academy.



### OUR LOCATION

Oak Bridge Academy is extremely fortunate to be located in Forward Church at 55 Franklin Boulevard in Cambridge. Forward Church has a large, and impressive facility which includes classrooms, a full size gymnasium, a large commercial kitchen, a movie theatre, an on-site outdoor play structure and abundant green space ideal for recess and outdoor learning.

Please note that, although we are located in Forward Church, Oak Bridge Academy is non-denominational. Families of all faiths and backgrounds are welcome.

### CONTACT US

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Charitable Registration Number: 71154 4296 RR0001



**OAK BRIDGE ACADEMY** is an alternative, not-for-profit, elementary school offering evidence-based academic and behaviour programs for children with special needs including autism, attention deficit hyperactivity disorder, anxiety and other related learning exceptionalities.



# OAK BRIDGE ACADEMY

## WHY CHOOSE OAK BRIDGE ACADEMY?

Just Imagine... a classroom where your child is calm, aware, involved, and actively engaged in their learning... where they have friends... and where they love school.

It is possible...

**Welcome to Oak Bridge Academy!**

## OUR GOAL

Oak Bridge Academy provides children with the tools they need to become socially competent and successful individuals.



**Oak Bridge Academy –  
where success is  
presumed and  
actively pursued!**



## OUR MISSION

Our mission is to provide specialized education to exceptional learners with the core foundation of behavioural flexibility. We provide services for children with autism, attention deficit hyperactivity disorder, anxiety and other related learning exceptionalities.

We offer full-day, ten-month (September to June) programs with a low student-to-teacher ratio for children in grades 1-8.

## THE OAK BRIDGE APPROACH

- I AM AWARE.**
- I ACCEPT MY FEELINGS.**
- MY THOUGHTS ARE CLEAR.**
- I AM CALM.**
- I KNOW MY GOALS.**
- I AM READY TO LEARN.**
- I CAN DO ANYTHING!**

## OUR CHARACTERISTICS

- Small class sizes of one teacher and at least one registered behaviour therapist for a maximum of 10 students
- Best practice approach to behaviour therapy
- Best practice approach to academic excellence
- Focus on continual improvement
- Not-for-profit school model
- Inclusive and accepting school
- Highly valued and respected parent input
- Affiliations with community organizations to provide opportunities for inclusion
- Support for students transitioning into high school

## OUR ACADEMIC PROGRAMS

- Follow the Ontario Curriculum
- Technology-guided learning which creates the opportunities to remediate and enrich each child's program individually
- Blended learning approach
- Social learning opportunities in different environments to create hands-on, creative, interactive and practical experiences in the community
- Direct social skills training
- Daily living skills
- Safety awareness

## OUR BEHAVIOUR PROGRAMS

- Applied Behaviour Analysis techniques to positively shape the students' behaviours.
- Acceptance and Commitment Therapy to achieve:
  - Self-regulation
  - Behavioural flexibility
  - Mindful awareness of thoughts, actions and feelings
  - Engagement of the present moment