

IDPE Schools' Award for Ambition and Progress

(Development within the school has been established for five years or less)



AKS Lytham – Establishment of the Development Office and launch of the AKS Lytham Foundation

The history of AKS Lytham spans 300 years across four heritage schools which has resulted in five respective alumni communities. In 2012, the OAKS alumni was established to enable the heritage schools to move into the future as a combined alumni encapsulating each school under the OAKS association. However, since 2012, very little focus had been allocated to alumni engagement.

Since September 2022, a Fundraising and Engagement Strategy has been approved and a first-year plan implemented resulting in a transformational difference in the schools ability and capacity to engage its alumni and fundraise.

Progress includes:

- The development and launch (Dec 2022) of the alumni website and CRM (<https://oaksconnect.com>)
- First phase of a Notable Alumni Gallery installed
- A calendar of alumni events implemented
- Launch of a new look OAK Magazine
- Launch of Beyond AKS – online mentor service

Despite there being no history of philanthropy at the school, the AKS Lytham Foundation was launched in May 2023. Unlike many schools who benefit from an endowment to start a Foundation, AKS is building an entirely new fund.

Since its launch, the Foundation has raised £51,016 for the new Bursary Fund which has exceeded all expectations and has positioned the Foundation for the launch of the ambitious Change Their World campaign in 2023-2024.

Supporting materials

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ofuQylj9b84>

[AKS Foundation Brochure](#)

[AKS Foundation Impact Report 2022-2023](#)

[Summer 2023 OAK Magazine](#)