



Secrets to Success Booklet

2026 - 2027

Name:

Secrets to Success at Overleigh St Mary's Primary

At Overleigh, we believe that every child has the potential to thrive—not just in school, but in life. That's why we've embraced '**Secrets to Success**', a powerful approach developed by Chris Quigley to help children grow into confident, motivated learners.

This initiative focuses on building strong personal qualities and positive attitudes that support lifelong learning. It's not just about academic achievement—it's about developing the mind-set and character needed to succeed in our ever-changing world.

The Secrets to Success Award

Each year, children take part in six exciting challenges—one per half term. These challenges are designed to reflect our school's values, Christian ethos, and the key skills taught across our curriculum.

- * Every time a child completes a challenge they need to inform their Class Teacher and then they will receive a certificate to celebrate their achievement.
- * **Children must complete Autumn 1 and 2 challenges by Christmas 2026.**
- * **Children must complete Spring 1 and 2 challenges by Easter 2027.**
- * **Children must complete Summer 1 and 2 challenges by Friday 25th June 2027.**

Those who complete all six challenges by the dates above will be invited to a special celebration event at the end of the Summer term, where we'll honour their hard work and growth. At the back of this booklet is a checklist to tick off when you have completed each challenge.

Why It Matters

The Secrets to Success Award helps children to:

- ◇ Develop resilience, creativity, and independence
- ◇ Build positive relationships and understand others
- ◇ Learn how to set goals and persevere through challenges

To build on last year's success, we'd love to showcase more examples of positive outcomes in classrooms and around school. Please send your evidence of great work or achievements to your class teacher.



We're proud to support our pupils on this journey—and excited to see them shine.

Autumn 1 Challenge

Imagine - **Problem** **Solving**



At Overleigh St Mary's we encourage children to problem solve.

Successful people are problem solvers.

Problem solving helps children to think independently, make decisions and find solutions when faced with a challenge.

These skills also support learning in subjects such as Maths, Science and English while building confidence, creativity, resilience and critical thinking that children can use in everyday life.

Challenge: Build a Bivouac—an outdoor shelter

Build a 'Bivouac' (an outdoor shelter built from things around you).

Only use rope or string and natural objects around you such as leaves, sticks, stones, etc.

Your shelter must be water tight and big enough for either a teddy or you to go inside.

You may do this on your own, with a family member or a friend.

Autumn 2 Challenge

Work Hard -

Start a Business



At Overleigh St Mary's we work hard

Successful people don't settle—they push themselves to develop perseverance, confidence and a positive attitude.

Of course, it is much easier to push yourself if you see the point to what you are doing and if you can support a worthwhile cause while doing this.

Helping others teaches children to be kind, caring and supportive. It also helps them to develop empathy and great communication skills.

Challenge: Start a Business

Think of something you could make to sell to raise money for charity.

It could be handmade cards, painted pebbles, decorated bookmarks, Christmas decorations, etc.

You could sell these to your family, friends or neighbours and donate your money to a charity.

Spring 1 Challenge

Understand Others -

Speak a new
language



At Overleigh St Mary's we always try our best to understand others

Celebration of Diversity is in the very fabric of our school and creates a wonderful environment where we can all learn from each other.

Diversity helps children understand and respect that everyone is different. Learning about different cultures, backgrounds, beliefs and experiences encourages acceptance, empathy and kindness.

This helps children create an inclusive community where everyone feels valued.

Challenge: Speak a new Language

Learn 5 – 10 words or phrases from a different language.

Practise these and record yourself saying them.

If you have a friend who speaks a different first language to yours, you could ask them to help teach you some common words or phrases from their first language.

Spring 2 Challenge

Improve -

**Grow a Plant or
Vegetable**



At Overleigh St Mary's we encourage children to improve their knowledge and understanding of the world.

Nurturing and caring for living things helps children to develop patience, responsibility and observational skills.

It focuses children on how important it is to not only care for themselves but also for the world that we live in, developing respect and how our actions can protect people, animals and the environment.

Challenge: Grow a Plant or Vegetable

Grow a plant or vegetable. Pick something that will grow within 4—6 weeks such as: cress, radishes ,lettuce, spring onions, sunflowers, etc.

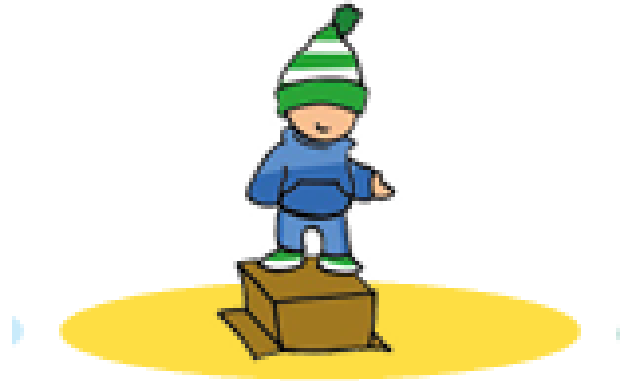
You will need to prepare the pot ready for the seeds and look after your plant or vegetable as it grows.

Record it's progress either in a chart or through photographs.

Depending on what plant/vegetable you choose, you may need to start this in Spring 1 as Spring 2 is a short half term.

Summer 1 Challenge

**Push Yourselfs -
Perform a Poem,
Rhyme or Song**



At Overleigh St Mary's we like to push ourselves

Successful people are always looking for ways to make things better. They don't settle—they explore, experiment, and evolve. That same mindset helps children grow into confident, capable learners.

Performing in front of others develops our confidence skills which in turn develop self-belief, resilience, communication and the courage to push our self out of our comfort zone.

Challenge: Perform a Poem/Rhyme/Song

Learn a poem/rhyme/song and perform it to your family, friends or your class.

This could be something you already know or something you teach yourself.

You could add actions if you wish.

Send in evidence to show this if you complete this challenge at home.

Summer 2 Challenge

Don't Give Up -
Walk a Mile a
Week



At Overleigh St Mary's we Don't Give Up

Successful people maintain a healthy balance between hard work and keeping well and healthy. It is important to understand the importance of staying active for physical and mental wellbeing.

Physical activity builds fitness, co-ordination and confidence. Being well mentally and physically will give you the strength and determination to succeed in any task or challenge you are faced with.

Challenge: Walk a Mile a Week

Walk 1 mile every week for 3 weeks.

If you want you can record what you see during your walk and think about all the beautiful things in our immediate environment and the world around us.

Record the date below when you have completed each mile.

Autumn 1—Challenge

To be completed by Christmas 2026

Start a business to raise money for Charity -

To be completed by Christmas 2026

To speak a new language -

To be completed by Easter 2027

To Grow a Plant or Vegetable -

To be completed by Easter 2027

Perform a Poem, Rhyme or Song -

To be completed by Friday 25th June 2027

Walk a Mile a Week for 3 weeks -

To be completed by Friday 25th June 2027
