



Twins Adam and Lewis are being encouraged to fulfil their potential by the supportive staff at Ballymena Primary School

Julie and Steven live in Ballymena with their twin boys, Adam and Lewis, aged ten.

Caring teachers

Julie and Steven are delighted with the progress Adam and Lewis have made since they started at Ballymena Primary School when they were five. Julie says: "The teachers care about each child in the classroom and support their individual needs. Lewis has ASD and they have been fantastic with him right from the start and encouraged him and helped him to thrive. Adam has had support from the staff with his reading and has now made a lot of progress with it."

Good choice

The family considered three schools before choosing Ballymena Primary. Julie says: "We took the boys to have a look round and we all had a good feeling about the school. The teachers went out of their way to talk to us and the boys both loved it. Adam told a teacher that he liked Bob the Builder and liked to dress up as Bob and she went to get an outfit from their dressing up box for him. He tried it on and thought it was brilliant. We thought the school had a lovely caring atmosphere."



Smooth transition

Julie and Steven were worried about the twins settling in because the school was very different from the nursery they were used to going to. "On the first day, their teacher met them at the door and they just went straight in with her with no problems. They both ran out happily in the afternoon and immediately asked if they could go back again the next day. Since then, there hasn't been a single day when they haven't wanted to go to school. They have both flourished there and have never had any problems," Julie says.

Enjoying learning

"They both love doing topic work and learning about new things. When they did a topic on the Titanic, they were both fascinated by it. We would often hear them talking about it at home and they loved writing about it because they were so interested in it. They also both love doing PE at school. At the moment, they are practising for sports day and when they come home, they carry on practising together. They are very enthusiastic, and they keep telling us that, "It's all about taking part."

Christian environment

Julie and Steven like the Christian ethos of Ballymena Primary. "We think it is good for the children to hear bible stories at school. They were learning about Noah's Ark recently and I think it is important that they learn about things like that at school. They will come home in the afternoons and talk about what they have learnt that day enthusiastically," she says.

Fun activities

The twins enjoyed the Coronation celebrations they had at school and having a Coronation box with special food in it for lunch. "They had their photos taken next to a picture of King Charles III and came home with a King Charles III medal round their necks. Lewis also recently enjoyed being in the Wizard of Oz, which he found great fun. It is great to see how much they are enjoying school life and we are pleased they have some nice friends and like all the teachers."

Thinking skills

"We love the way the school encourage the children to think about things and come up with their own ideas about issues and how they challenge the children to get the best out of them. All the teachers have been excellent and we are grateful to them for helping our children to grow and shine."

Children say

Adam says:

"I like doing arts and crafts at school."

Lewis says:

"I enjoy doing literacy and IT and I like going to the computer room."



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