



Amy and Tom are flourishing in the beautiful rural environment of Bishop Wilton CE VC Primary School

Catherine and Martin live in Bishop Wilton with their children, Amy, aged ten, and Tom, aged eight.

Enjoying learning

Catherine and Martin are pleased with the academic progress made by their children in the lovely setting of Bishop Wilton Primary School. "Both Amy and Tom have done very well there and learnt to read quickly, and their writing is also good. They are now in the same class because it is a Year 3 to 6 group. It works well, as the children are in reading groups according to their ability and the younger ones are inspired by the older ones to try different things," Catherine says.

Countryside location

The couple chose Bishop Wilton as they live in the village and wanted their children to be able to walk to school each day. "Amy started doing two half days a week in the nursery when she was three and enjoyed it. She went into Reception, which is part of Key Stage 1, when she was four and settled in well. She has always loved going to the school and liked going on the welly walks around the village. They take the children out for their welly walks, whatever the weather," Catherine says.

Varied activities

"The children also enjoy being taken to play in the woodland and build dens there. Even though it is a small school attended, by about 40 children, the staff offer them a wide range of activities," Catherine says. "I am very impressed with Amy's and Tom's class teacher, and how she gives individual attention to all pupils, despite their different ages."

Art activities

Amy enjoys English and is also doing well in Maths. "She particularly loves doing Art at school and the staff do a lot of artwork with the children and enter some of what they produce at school into the annual Bishop Wilton Show in July. When Tom first started at Bishop Wilton, he used to love riding the trikes in the playground and playing ball games. He now likes playing on the astroturf with the sports equipment. They have a male PE teacher twice a week, who does a good range of sports with them, including table tennis and dance this term," Catherine says.

Music lessons

"Tom also likes Science and enjoys making things in DT and Food Tech. They have both been given the opportunity to learn a musical instruments at school and Amy plays the violin, and Tom plays the guitar," she says.

Helping each other

"At Bishop Wilton the children take part in collective worship every day and are taught Christian values. They are encouraged to be kind and support others. The different age groups all mix well in the playground and the older ones look out for the younger ones. The school has close links with the village church and the children attend services there," Catherine says.

Exciting trips

"Considering Bishop Wilton is a small school, the staff put on plenty of activities. Every child has a part in the Christmas play each year and the staff also organise great trips, such as when they visited London and slept on board HMS Belfast." Catherine, who is treasurer of Bishop Wilton Primary's PTA, is also pleased that parents are keen to help raise money for the school.

Father's view

Martin says: "Bishop Wilton is nurturing, challenging and inclusive. It has enabled our children to grow as individuals, both academically and personally – gently grounded in a Christian ethos. Amy and Tom value their friendships and are fond of their teachers. Most importantly of all, they are happy and love going to school every day, proud to be pupils at Bishop Wilton."

Children say

Amy says: "I love doing Art at school."

Tom says: "My favourite lesson is PE."