



Only one place could provide the support this family desperately needed, and that was Chickerell Primary Academy

Megan and Liam live in Weymouth with their two sons. Connor is six and Jack, four, is in the pre-school, Chickadees.

A long wait

Connor has been on a waiting list for an assessment for autism since he was two and a half years old. He had initially been placed in another nursery but Megan and Liam felt that Chickadees would be more appropriate as it would help his transition to the main school reception at Chickerell Primary.

Kind and caring

“The difference was immediately apparent,” says Megan. “The pre-school staff were very understanding of his particular needs and helped him settle in so well. They were kind, caring and patient and, in contrast to his last placement, allowed me to go in with him for a while to get him settled, rather than my having to leave him at the door, crying for me, which was heartbreaking.”

Set back

Connor became comfortable with his new pre-school but the summer break between leaving pre-school and starting at Reception class set him back. “It was a totally new environment, with different teachers, and he really struggled to adapt,” explains Megan. “The staff, however, were wonderful with him and we felt he was turning a corner, but Connor does not respond well to change and again, we were nervous when he was about to start in Year 1.”

Our extended family

“We still have a way to go with both our boys, but we know we have the full and absolute backing of this school to help us through this complicated process of diagnosis and additional, funded, support. Chickerell to us feels like an extended family, who know us and our children so well. They really, genuinely care about the children, and that means the world.”



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