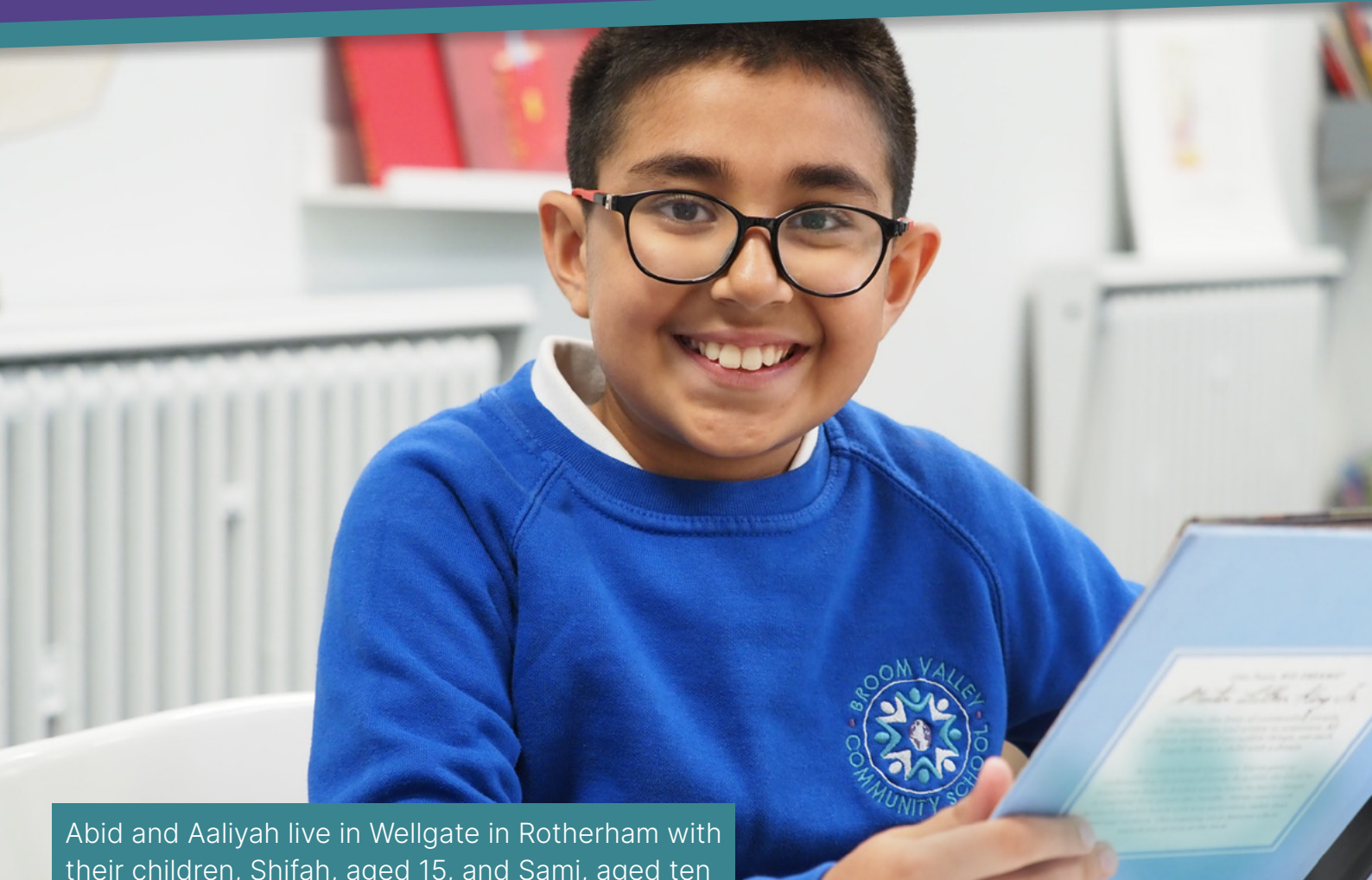


Maths superstar Sami is being encouraged to fulfil his potential with thoughtful motivation from the staff at Broom Valley Community School



Abid and Aaliyah live in Wellgate in Rotherham with their children, Shifah, aged 15, and Sami, aged ten

Aiming high

Sami has always responded well to the rewards system at Broom Valley Community School and is now excelling in Maths. His parents, Abid and Aaliyah, are delighted that the staff at Broom Valley have judged Sami to be number one in the school for speed and accuracy with times tables and Mental Maths. "Sami loved going to Broom Valley right from the start and he has enjoyed being praised and receiving stickers and awards for his achievements," Abid says.

Enthusiastic

After Sami joined Reception at the age of four, he settled in quickly. "He has come home very excited about school each day and tells us what he has been doing. Having an older sister has made Sami competitive and he has worked hard and achieved well with Maths, reading, and writing. He does Maths at home for pleasure, answering questions on line and trying to complete sums as quickly as he can. He also loves PE and playing football, cricket, and basketball at school," his father says.

Problem solving

Sami is always keen to learn and will look outside the box to solve problems, according to his mother, Aaliyah. "When he was asked to help a younger child who spoke only Urdu, he asked me to teach him some Urdu so he could give the boy the right advice in his own language. I wrote five sentences out for him that he carried in his pocket so he could help the other pupil. Sami also likes being in the Pupil Parliament and coming up with ideas to help make the school even better," she says.

Support at Team BVCS

When Sami went into Year 5, he told his parents it was his best ever first day in a new class. Abid says: "I told the school what he had said because I wanted the staff to know they are appreciated. He had been apprehensive about going into Year 5 before he started back at school, but his teacher deals with each child as an individual and Sami is enjoying being in his class."

Encouraged to lead

"Sami is very competitive, but he is always fair when he plays sport and he enjoys working with younger children and supporting them. He has been chosen to be part of a team that takes it in turn to help with playground activities and he takes his duties seriously and helps the other pupils enthusiastically," Abid says.

Inclusive community

When Sami's older sister, Shifah, was due to start school, Abid and Aaliyah wanted her to go to a school that embraced multiculturalism. Abid had attended Broom Valley himself and his nieces and nephews had also attended the school, so they knew children from all faiths and cultures were made to feel welcome and included. They chose Broom Valley for Shifah because they wanted her to have a good primary school experience.

Parents valued

"Shifah developed good connections with the teachers. They always had time for her and I could trust them to look after her while she was at school," Aaliyah says. "She had been a very premature baby and I was worried about how she would progress, but she did well at Broom Valley and is now excelling at secondary school. We have always been very satisfied with Broom Valley because it is a lovely environment where parents are treated with respect.

The school aren't just providing the children with an academic education, they are equipping them with skills for life and broadening their experiences with varied after-school activities and extra opportunities."

Children say

Sami says: "I enjoy learning Maths, playing sport and being with my friends at school."



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