

# Micaela's daughters started Reception at The Rosary and they find school is there when support is needed

Micaela has Isabella age 10 and in Year 5 and Emelia, age 8 and in Year 3

#### **Working together**

Micaela instinctively knew that Bella needed extra support at school and once a formal diagnosis was made, Rosary were on hand to help. Micaela says, "Bella has a hidden disability called DLD which means she has a different way of processing information and language. Bella needs people to talk slowly for her and she works best with short instructions. It was hard to get Bella's condition recognised, especially as she had been an early years' "Lockdown" child. We were already working on her speech and language skills. Getting the diagnosis meant we could get the right support for her."

### **Quick to offer support**

"It's frustrating how long the process takes for children and families in these circumstances. As soon as we knew Bella's diagnosis, school were in touch straight away to make sure the right support was in place. They've put things in the classroom to help Bella, for example she has a glossary on her desk which she can refer to. It helps her break down and understand what she's being asked to do" says Micaela.

#### **Helping to settle**

When a child receives a diagnosis, their emotional well-being needs to be taken into consideration. Micaela says, "School have been very good at helping Bella understand her diagnosis. She doesn't like having it but school have encouraged her and given her space to talk about it. She feels she can share when things aren't working and she feels listened to. She has teachers and staff she likes working with and building those relationships is helping her confidence."

## Children say

Isabella says: "I like drawing pictures."
Emelia says: "I like playing with my friends."



#### **School Values:**

Love, Inclusivity, Aspiration, Curiosity, Respect

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