



Rosary Catholic Primary School offered everything Kathryn was looking for when choosing a school for her son Jackson and it's given him the best start.

Kathryn's son Jackson is age 6 and in Year 1.

Deciding on Rosary

"The location for school was important to me when I was first thinking about where Jackson should go. I wanted school to be close by so that school felt an easy part of our day and I wanted a school with lots of outdoor space. My neighbour reassured me about the school as I was nervous as we're not Catholic, she explained that she wasn't either but her child was at Rosary and said it was a great school. So good location and a good review all helped make the decision," says Kathryn.

Outdoor and sports activities

"Jackson loves to be outside, he's active and enjoys sport. He loves Forest School at The Rosary. There are after school sport clubs that Jackson has participated in and enjoyed. He's done rugby and he's looking forward to the summer when it will be cricket and fencing. His class went on a school trip to the zoo in Bristol this week, which he loved, but Jackson was upset that it was on the day they normally have PE, that's how much he loves his sport," says Kathryn.

Making friends in different classes

"Being at The Rosary has had a positive impact on Jackson. He has friends and knows children across all year groups. I've noticed when we've been out and about on a weekend other children, often the older ones will stop and say hello. When he goes to breakfast club there's always someone to welcome him and make him feel at home. He might be the only person from his class there but the other children are always excited to see him and he's soon off playing and having a great time. There's a house system at the school which encourages teamwork and competition, brings a sense of belonging and helps to build different friendships, it's lovely to see," says Kathryn.

Brilliant teachers who inspire learning

"The reception and year 1 teachers are brilliant, just fantastic. At this age it's all about teaching the children how to learn and they've done a wonderful job with Jackson.

He initially showed no interest in English but his teacher, Mrs. Phillips engages him and sets small challenges each week and his progress has been wonderful. We were at the circus recently and he was trying to sound out the words he could see on the signs. He would never have tried that before, it's incredible to see him progressing and I can't thank Mrs. Phillips enough for working with him like she has," says Kathryn.

Being part of a community and celebrating together

"It really doesn't matter about your religious background, or lack of one, The Rosary are inclusive and welcoming of everyone. I was worried initially but I look back now and know I needn't have been. Jackson and I have some great conversations when he comes home about all sorts of things. It's wonderful to witness him thinking about things and coming to his own conclusions. I think being at a faith school gives children a strong sense of being part of a community and caring for each other, and that's important. It also means they enjoy many of the traditions that feel familiar, like the Nativity at Christmas and the Harvest Festival. I'm really pleased Jackson is at The Rosary, it's given him the best start I could have hoped for and more," says Kathryn.

Children say:

Jackson says: "I love playing on the school field with my friends."

