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# Keen PE student Rafay Ali is enjoying the benefit of the excellent facilities offered by Grove Academy

Kay lives with her son, Rafay, who is 13, in Slough.



## Well-equipped gym

Kay is pleased with the progress her son, Rafay, is making at Grove Academy and is impressed with the facilities at the school. Kay says: "Grove Academy is very well equipped and has an excellent gym that the students can use, which is great for Rafay because one of his favourite subjects is PE."

## Welcome opportunity

She was pleased when Rafay was offered a place at Grove Academy because he had lost his previous primary school place during Covid 19. "He had been attending another primary school in Slough at the time, but when Covid broke out we were in a red list country and couldn't get back to the UK. He lost his place at primary school and had to be home schooled for a while. Therefore, I was very keen for him to get back into a school setting," Kay says.

## Good impression

"We were living near Grove Academy at the time. After I applied to the school, they offered him a place straight away and I was very relieved. We went to have a look round and liked the building and Rafay loved

his classroom and the lunch hall. He started at Grove Academy in Year 5 when he was 10 years old," she says.

## Playground fun

Rafay was given a warm welcome by the Headteacher and the staff helped him to settle in, Kay recalls. "He got on well in the primary school and enjoyed lots of different activities. They marked out games on the primary playground, which all children enjoyed playing together. There were some good after school clubs and he enjoyed doing Lego and arts and crafts clubs. The sports teacher was very good and Rafay loved playing football and basketball."

## Enjoying Maths

"Now he is in Year 8, he is a bright student and is doing well in all his subjects and particularly likes PE and Maths. Rafay believes in attentively listening to what's being taught in class. He is a hardworking student, who works with dedication, takes time to reflect and studies at home. Grove Secondary school has a great addition to aid with studies which is through an App called SPARXS Maths. It's a fun way to do Maths homework," Kay says.

## Diverse community

"The school lunches are very good and we are glad they always have Halal and vegetarian options on the menu. Grove Academy is a diverse community and the staff take all faiths into consideration. During his time at the school, Rafay has had some good teachers. If your child is bright and asking questions, the staff will encourage them, so that they reach their full potential. Rafay has been his class ambassador/prefect throughout the years and represented his school on open days."

## Children say

Rafay says: "I think the facilities at Grove Academy are very good, and the school lunches are nice. They also have a breakfast club families can use if they need it, which is a good addition for working parents who need to drop off kids earlier. I believe the teachers deserve the utmost respect as they are attached to a noble profession and only after having good teaching can a student reach their full potential."