



NATALIE AND CRAIG LIVE
IN SOLIHULL WITH THEIR
SONS, KYLE, AGED 14,
AND SAM, AGED 11.

Kyle has developed as a person and enjoyed helping others during his four years at Lode Heath School

Receiving recognition

Kyle is flourishing in Year 10 at Lode Heath School and is proud to have just been chosen as a Senior Student. Kyle says: "I applied by letter saying why I thought it would benefit my personal development and why I would be good for the role, and I am delighted to have been selected. I helped at the recent Year 6 transition evening and am now looking forward to helping at this year's summer school for new Year 7 students."

Friendly teachers

Even now, Kyle can remember thinking how big Lode Heath was when he first started in Year 7 at the age of 11. "Thankfully, I didn't feel too overwhelmed and my form teacher was very nice. I liked the fact there was a good range of subjects on offer, including things I hadn't done at primary school, such as Catering and DT. I enjoyed Catering, but my favourite subject has been Computer Science, which I am doing for GCSE. I also liked History and Geography. I got on well with all the teachers and enjoyed having banter with them."

Positive change

Kyle is keen to help new students as they transition into Year 7 and keen to start using the training he has received through the Diana Award which is for young people who try to make positive change in the world. "We are educated about bullying, and how to make other people feel valued, and we help by putting up anti bullying posters and raising money for mental health support."

Character development

He also thinks it is valuable for students to have the chance to study Character and Personal Development at Lode Heath. "It is a lesson each fortnight that covers issues such as alcohol and drugs, sex education, what to do if you find yourself in danger, and other useful things that will help us in the future. I like the lessons and think

they are taught well. They are backed up by assemblies on the topics we have covered to reinforce what we have been learning about."

Sampling subjects

Kyle says: "As well as PE, which everyone does, you can try sports at a variety of different clubs. I have been in the football team, played cricket, and tried dodgeball. I have enjoyed having the chance to try Drama and Music, which were taught along with other subjects on a rotation basis in the lower years. But my favourite subject is Computer Science. We have a very good teacher and I enjoy all the lessons and get on well with the other students."

Good choice

Natalie and Craig can't speak highly enough of Lode Heath and what the teachers have done for Kyle. "He has really enjoyed his time there, so we know we made the right decision when we chose the school. It was during Covid, so we couldn't actually go to look round, but we decided Kyle should go there based on its good reputation," Natalie says.

Approachable staff

They are happy for Kyle's brother, Sam, to be following him into the school. "Our experience has been that if we have ever needed to mention anything, or ask about anything, we have had a very quick response from the staff, although we haven't had to contact them much while Kyle has been there," she says.

Excellent experience

Natalie is grateful for receiving good guidance from Kyle's Computer Science teacher about where he could go for work experience. "Kyle gained very good experience in the computer department of Solihull College, where he learnt a lot and he was given the chance to take computers apart. It was his teacher who suggested he applied there and it worked out well. We couldn't be happier with Kyle's whole experience at Lode Heath School."