

Graham believes that enjoyment and achievement are of equal importance, and Brookhurst Primary School has proved the right choice on both counts



Careful consideration

Graham and Claudia had sent both their sons to a private nursery and so it would have been logical move to find a similar setting for their primary education. "We looked at several local private and public schools, including Brookhurst as it was round the corner from where we lived," says Graham. "We were very impressed with the range of facilities it offered, not just in the classroom but in terms of extra-curricular activities and the all-important Breakfast and Out-of-School Clubs. As we both work full-time, before and after school care was something we had to consider carefully and as Brookhurst had good facilities on-site, it helped us to make up our minds."



Graham and Claudia Nicoll live in Leamington with their sons Toby, nine and Joel, seven.

Achieving and enjoying

Brookhurst greatly values the support of parents in helping to run extra-curricular activities such as after-school and lunchtime clubs, fundraising events and in the classroom, where Aparna is a regular and welcome volunteer, helping the younger children with their reading. "I am fortunate to have the time to do it and I really like to help out in this way," she says. "I think it is an exceptional school and does such a good job for the children that I feel it is only fair to make a contribution. It is also friendly; the staff and the other parents I meet are approachable and helpful and I have made a lot of new friends myself. Even though my husband has to travel a lot with his job, I would not consider moving Sakshi as is so settled."

Children say

There was obviously much more than the wrap-round care to take into account, and Graham is pleased with both boys' progress to date. "They have very different interests and personalities and are given every opportunity to express these through their classwork and their non-academic activities. Even though Joel is more naturally studious and Toby more active and social, they are both achieving well in all areas and enjoying themselves. They really look forward to going to school, and that is the most important thing."

Social circle

Another advantage of Brookhurst, from Graham's point of view, is the fact that it is close enough so that the boys can socialise with their schoolfriends out of school hours. "As most of their friends live nearby they have a great social life after school and at weekends, and that's a major advantage," he says. "If they had been at school elsewhere it might not have been so easy for them to get together to play football or visit each other's houses and I like the fact that Brookhurst is giving them that opportunity as well as a good, all-round, real-world education."

Valuing parents

The bright and welcoming atmosphere, says Graham, extends to the attitude of the staff who are keen to involve parents in school events. "It's good that parents are valued as contributors and that they are encouraged to play a part by sharing knowledge and experience," he says. "I recently gave a talk to the children about my charity Marathon runs across the Sahara, and other parents have also had stories to tell about their interests or jobs; it's a nice way of bringing home and school together."

Claudia has recently been appointed a Parent Governor. "I really want to do what I can to support the school and help to make sure that our children get the best education possible," she says. "I like the fact that the opinions of parents are actively sought so that we can bring in our own particular areas of expertise; my business background will, I hope, help to contribute to the efficient running of the school."



Children say

Toby: "I am really enjoying learning about Ancient Egypt and my time in ICT."

Joel: "I like ICT and getting house points for doing really good work".

Brookhurst Primary School
Ullswater Avenue
Leamington Spa
Warwickshire
CV32 6NH

Telephone: 01926 420051

Fax: 01926 429899

Email: admin2330@welearn365.com