

Shamina believes the **kindness** and the **dedication** of teaching staff at Burnley Brow Community School is building **confidence** and **character** in her two children



Shamina Yasmin lives in Oldham with her two daughters, Samya Islam, eight in Year 4 and Samaira Islam, four, in Reception.

### No better place

Shamina's family moved to Oldham when Samya was in Reception. "Burnley Brow Community School was local so it was convenient for us, but I did my research on the school and I was thrilled about the positive feedback," says Shamina.

Another house move has since taken them out of catchment but Shamina wouldn't consider moving schools. "There's no better place!"



## Patience and understanding

"Samya initially had some confidence issues and was concerned about answering questions when she first started in Reception. I think changing schools was overwhelming and she was afraid to give the wrong answers in front of her classmates," explains Shamina.

A teaching assistant worked more closely with Samya to help her overcome her fears. "This definitely helped her, but Samya doesn't adapt well to change, so she reverts slightly at the beginning of each new school year," explains Shamina. "Throughout, the school has shown patience and understanding. She's far less reserved now and willing to participate in role play, which she never would have done before!"

## Smaller group sizes to build confidence

Shamina feels this progression has really been helped by the dedicated staff, their friendly nature and the smaller lesson sizes. "I think Samya is more comfortable in smaller class sizes. Grouping the children into sets for their lessons has helped her to feel more able to contribute to lessons," says Shamina.

## An extension of your own family

Shamina feels confident that Samya is happy and content at school. "It's such a welcoming and friendly school, a really happy place to be. Samya has made lots of friends there and I know she enjoys her time there."

Even though her youngest daughter is no longer at Nursery, Shamina still enjoys chatting to the Nursery staff. "All of the staff are like an extension of your own family!"

## Staff you can trust

Shamina has been pleased with how the transition from Nursery to Reception has been managed. "Until Reception, Samaira never spent lunchtime in the school environment, so she found it daunting," explains Shamina. "Samaira had some anxieties and I asked the teacher if she would accompany her into the lunch hall."

Even though she has thirty other children, the teacher has been willing to do that! She's been wonderful!"

Shamina adds: "I feel I can trust the staff to do what they say they will, which is so important. In return, you feel safe knowing your children are being well cared for."

## Rewarding positive behaviour and achievements

To further help build confidence, Shamina feels rewarding positive achievements and good behaviour is something the school does really well. "Samya was teaching Samaira some addition at home and Samaira was keen to show her teacher what she had learned. The teacher awarded her 'Super Learner of the Day' which was wonderful for Samaira!" explains Shamina. "It's a brilliant way of motivating the children to learn."

The children are also recognised for demonstrating a positive attitude. "Each week children are rewarded with certificates and items from the Reward Box such as pencils and notebooks for things like listening well and being a good friend. It's a lovely way to mark their achievements and it helps increase their self-esteem."

## Staff that will get the best from your children

Shamina adds: "Burnley Brow Community School is a wonderful, welcoming school! The teachers are happy to go that extra mile to get the best from your children."



## Children say:

Samya says: "My favourite thing about school is learning. We learn something new every day!"

Samaira says: "I love my teacher and all the friends I have made at school!"



**Burnley Brow Community School**  
Victoria Street, Chadderton, Oldham, OL9 0BY

**Phone:** 0161 770 3137  
**E-mail:** You can contact us on  
[info@burnleybrow.oldham.sch.uk](mailto:info@burnleybrow.oldham.sch.uk)