



Copthorne
Primary School
No limits on learning

Shazia has been really happy with the strong support given to her son Hassan by Copthorne Primary School

Shazia Kauser lives in Bradford with her sons, Raza, aged eight and Hassan, aged six.



Early concerns

When Hassan started in the nursery at Copthorne at the age of three and a half the staff were immediately concerned about his lack of speech. Shazia says: "I had already expressed my concerns to the health visitor but had been told that he might improve when he started nursery. But when I realised that he definitely had a problem I got him referred to a speech therapist and he was then referred to the complex speech department at the hospital."



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Support in school

Hassan was diagnosed as having autism with delayed speech and was given some therapy sessions at the hospital. Shazia is pleased that Copthorne have put in place all the support he needs within the school. "He is now in Year One and is really happy at school. They have been brilliant with Hassan and have gone above and beyond what they had to do," Shazia says.

Help with Maths

Shazia says she already knew Copthorne was a good school because her older son, Raza, has done well there. "I had chosen it after we moved to the area because it is only a two-minute walk from our house and had been described as 'outstanding' by Ofsted," she says. "When Raza started in the Reception class he really enjoyed it. He was already good at reading but the school immediately helped him improve his Maths."

Teaching assistant

After Hassan's problems were diagnosed a speech therapist came into the school to work with the staff. Shazia says: "Hassan was given a Statement of Needs and the school have fulfilled them all. He has been provided with a one to one teaching assistant to give him support in all his lessons. He has been given speech therapy where they show him pictures to help him talk. He is now beginning to use a few more words and I can definitely see an improvement."

Making progress

Shazia says she could not have received better support from the school. "The staff have carried out research into autism and the teaching assistant they have assigned to Hassan is very experienced and knowledgeable," she says. "His class teacher plans lessons around Hassan's needs. He is at a very basic stage with reading and writing but he is definitely making progress. He is given one to one support at playtime and lunchtime and in the school holidays he has access to the school holiday club."

Finding friends

Hassan is now very settled at the school and has made some friends. Shazia says: "Some of the children are really interested in him and friendly towards him. He is able to take part in PE lessons because he is very energetic and he is able to go out

on trips. His teaching assistant takes him to a children's centre where there is a sensory room that he is able to use."

Realistic targets

Shazia says the Head Teacher and the rest of the staff at Copthorne have all been fantastic. "The school have regular meetings with me to keep me informed about Hassan's progress and I can talk to the Special Needs Coordinator whenever I have any issues," she says. "They have set Hassan realistic targets and given him an individual plan to follow and I can definitely see progress. Copthorne is a forward-thinking school that has done everything possible to help my son. I would definitely recommend the school to other parents as I truly believe Copthorne are determined to help all children, whatever their needs."

Children say:

Shazia says: "Both my sons are happy at the school. Hassan always has a smiling face in the morning and is happy and cheerful because he knows he is going to school."

