



Drapers' Maylands  
Primary School



Assia Koleci lives with her son, Ryan, aged five, in Harold Hill in Havering.

Ryan is **thriving** in the **stimulating environment** of Drapers' Maylands Primary School

### Enjoying school

When Ryan wakes up in the morning he asks his Mum, Assia, if he is going to school that day and is disappointed if it is the weekend or the school holidays. "Ryan really enjoys going to school and he misses it when it is closed. Whenever we are doing something interesting at home he will ask me to take a photograph so he can show the teachers when he goes back to school. I find it fascinating the way he thinks about his school so much when he is at home," Assia says.

### Warm welcome

Ryan started at Drapers' Maylands last November in the reception class. "We had been living in another part of London where he had attended a very good school so I was anxious about him changing to begin with, but I am now very happy he is at Drapers' Maylands," Assia says. "I went to look round the school and met the head teacher and I was made to feel very welcome. Ryan settled in straight away. He felt at home from the very first day and has always been very happy at the school."

## Community spirit

Assia loves the close community feel of the school and the fact that Ryan is learning from the other children about their cultures and backgrounds. She says: "All the children are made to feel valued for who they are and the staff encourage them to talk about their backgrounds. Ryan loves hearing about the different cultures of other children and when he comes home he enjoys telling me about them."

## Good communication

"I like the way the staff keep the parents informed about what their children are doing at school. They send out a regular newsletter to keep the parents up to date and every couple of weeks they have the parents in early to show them the children's work and let them know how they are getting on," Assia says. "They send a personal book home with each child every evening and write updates in it and you can write questions in it for the child to take back to the teacher the next day."

## Individual attention

"It is obvious the staff care about their pupils and know them well. Ryan loves the teachers and you can tell he feels comfortable talking to them. They all take a genuine interest in him and they know he is very curious and will ask lots of questions. They give him stickers if he has done well at something, which gives him a lot of encouragement," she says.

## Approachable staff

"The head teacher, the office manager, the teachers and the TAs all welcome you with open arms. There is always a warm, friendly atmosphere when you go into the school. I feel confident I can go in and talk to the staff about Ryan if there is something I need to ask about and I am pleased the head teacher gives parents regular opportunities to see her," Assia says.

## Varied curriculum

"I am French and so I go into the school to teach the children French songs and the children also have the opportunity to learn Spanish. I love it when Ryan comes home speaking Spanish. It is great for him to have the opportunity to learn a different language. I also enjoy helping with Forest School, which gives the children the chance to use their imagination and spend time outdoors. Drapers' Maylands is a super school and I don't think I will ever find one better. Ryan is doing really well with his reading, writing and Maths and being given a fantastic start to his education."

### Children say

Ryan says: "I love my school because I try something new every day."



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