

Tara and Matthew were looking for a school who could offer stability alongside a great education to ensure their daughter achieved well. They couldn't ask for more than they have found at Ellison Primary School

Tara and Matthew Gibson live in Porthill with their children, Wynter-Rose, five in Reception and her younger brother, Ethan.



Consistent, caring and focused

As a child whose father was in the Forces, Tara had experienced the turbulence of moving schools and the uncertainties and anxieties this brought. She wanted to ensure Wynter-Rose's education was going to be consistent, caring and focused. "I contacted Ellison Primary School and asked to meet with the Head Teacher. She kindly met with me and spent lots of time taking me around the school, showing me all the classes and answering my questions. She explained all about the school on a one to one basis and reassured me over my concerns," said Tara.

Building confidence and independence

Tara has been thrilled at how well Wynter-Rose has progressed during her first year at Ellison Primary School. "Wynter-Rose is doing so well at the school. I can't believe how quickly she is coming on," says Tara. "She's naturally a very confident little girl but she is quickly becoming a very independent person, which is great to see,"

A fun approach

Tara feels Wynter-Rose's progress has a lot to do with the fantastic teaching staff at Ellison Primary School. "The teachers are so nice; the children love them. They push the children just that little bit more and get involved and really interact with the children which helps to build a great relationship," explains Tara. "They have dress-up days themed around the topics being learned and the teachers join in and dress-up too! The children love it!"

An open-door policy

Tara has always found the teachers to be approachable. Whilst she has not really had cause to meet with the teachers to date, she has been really encouraged with how the teaching staff make themselves available to parents. "The staff are always visible on the playground at the end of the day - you're always welcome speak to them if you need to," says Tara. "And they do lots of activities to include you in your child's education too."

"Everyone is very nice, from the janitor to the Headteacher. The school has a lovely, family feel," says Tara.

Welcoming and interactive

Ellison Primary School hosts special parents' and grandparents' days which Tara feels offers great insight into the school day and provides a wonderful opportunity for the children to show off their school. "I've been along and had dinner with Wynter-Rose at the school for Mother's Day. It was really nice to be able to do that. She thoroughly enjoyed it and loved taking me through the rules of dinner-time. We both put our hands up ready for

pudding!" says Tara. "It was lovely for her grandparents to experience her school environment on a special day for them too," says Tara. "It's a great opportunity to look through school work and to see how Wynter-Rose is progressing."

Results speak for themselves

Wynter-Rose, according to her parents, is very happy and content at Ellison Primary School. "There's not a day she doesn't want to go. She's settled in very well and is always happy to spend time there," says Tara. Both parents are incredibly pleased with her academic progress. "She's reading almost independently - she needs very little help. When she left nursery she could only count to ten. Now she's counting to one hundred! It's incredible really!"

Tara adds: "We couldn't have hoped for a better start for Wynter-Rose. She's doing really well. We've no regrets whatsoever in sending our daughter to Ellison Primary School and would recommend it to anyone."



Children say

Wynter-Rose says: "I love Ellison Primary School because I get to dress up and make things. And I really, really like my teachers too!"



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