



Rachael and Ali Saim live in Hammersmith with their twin daughters, Aisha and Samira, aged five.

Bright twins Aisha and Samira are **flourishing** in the **happy** atmosphere of Flora Gardens Primary School

CARING EARLY YEARS STAFF

Rachael and Ali had a clear idea of the sort of school and education they wanted for their girls and are delighted to be able to say they have found it in Flora Gardens. "Everyone at the school works hard for the good of the children and the teaching they deliver is excellent," Rachael says. "The twins attended Flora Gardens Children's Centre aged one and two years old, before getting full time nursery places at the school. They both loved the Early Years Nursery setting straight away. All the staff are extremely caring and nurturing towards the children and get to know the family before the children start by making a home visit."



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NURSERY FUN

"Aisha enjoyed her year in the Nursery class as there were so many different activities, such as playing on the computers, singing songs and painting," Rachael says. "Samira loved the outdoor play area with the dressing up dolls, hair salon, water play and sand pits." Both girls made a smooth transition into the Reception class the next year. They love their teacher, who is very experienced, and as parents, we have had an excellent home school liaison with the teacher, via the home school learning book."

QUALITY FIRST TEACHING

"Aisha and Samira are both bright kids and their abilities have been acknowledged and well catered for. Their reading progress developed rapidly and their phonic knowledge is very secure. Their basic maths understanding is secure and they are being given challenging homework. I feel both girls have been well prepared for moving up to Year One. It was no surprise to me that Early Years at Flora Gardens was graded as Good by Ofsted in 2015. It really does offer superb personalisation and a great start for every child."

KEEPING ACTIVE

There are plenty of opportunities for sport and outdoor activities. Rachael says: "The twins love the outdoor play area where there is a Trim Trail – a type of obstacle course made out of wood, with ropes to swing from and a climbing frame. It's a bit like a mini assault course! During the winter the school involved Sports for Schools programme and the Great Britain Triple Jump Athlete Nathan Fox ran circuit training sessions with every class in the hall. In the summer Ravenscourt Park is used for sports events."

LOVELY SETTING

"The school is surrounded by gardens and on the edge of a fabulous park. It is wonderful for a London primary school to have a setting like that," Rachael says. "We live on the other side of the park and Ali and the girls walk across it in the mornings to get to school. We feel we are part of a local community with the school at the centre and parents are encouraged to become involved in any way they can."

DEDICATED TEACHERS

"I am the Deputy Head of another primary school and so I knew what I wanted from a school for my girls. Flora Gardens looks very ordinary and understated from the outside but once you go in and meet the people who work there, you realise what a great school it really is. Everybody wants all children to succeed and be the best they possibly can be. Flora Gardens is a hidden gem, a small one form entry primary school that I would recommend

to other parents. The school approached me and asked me to become a Governor because they wanted to bring in someone with a background in education. I was very pleased to accept because Flora Gardens is definitely on the up. The Acting Head Teacher is excellent and the school is going from strength to strength," Rachael says.

CHILDREN SAY

Aisha says: "I like playing in the outdoor play area."

Samira says: "I like dressing up as a Disney princess."



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