

# Emily wanted more than just an **excellent education** for her daughter and has found it at Maldon Primary School



**Maldon Primary School**  
*Inspiring success for all*



Emily and Ian Ewers live near Maldon with their daughter, Holly, who is five years old.

## **An all-round educational experience**

Finding the right school for your child can be a gamble, but perhaps less so for a parent who knows exactly what they are looking for. Maldon Primary is not the closest school to where Emily and Ian live but, as a teacher herself as well as

a mum, Emily was convinced it was the one she wanted for Holly:

“Naturally we wanted Holly to have the best possible early education but there is a great deal more than that to school experience,” she believes.

"We had several choices, but it was Maldon Primary that particularly impressed us, not just because of its constantly improving performance but because of the welcoming and caring atmosphere. When we first went to visit we were struck by how contented the children were, totally engaged with their work and well behaved, and this was not a pre-planned event, but an informal tour and given by the Deputy Head. We really felt that we were valued and that the pupils were, too."

### Life skills

Emily was also keen that Holly should go to school alongside children from a wide range of backgrounds, rather than just those from similar families, as this is the best way to learn the life skills which are so important. "Children learn so much from their peers in terms of social interaction, and that is how they become well-rounded people with the ability to deal with all sorts of situations. Holly has made some lovely friends at Maldon Primary and they are of varying ability, other cultures and different circumstances, and that is the way it should be."

### Nurturing ethos

A further example of the nurturing ethos of the school was the visit to the family home of Holly's teacher and classroom assistant, something which Emily found useful. "The children's teachers offered to visit before the start of the new term which really helped Holly to develop a closer relationship with them and make her feel even more comfortable in class," Emily explains. "I thought it was a brilliant idea, and it also helps us as parents to feel included. Knowing that the staff are so approachable is wonderful and I know I can always get to speak to someone straightaway should I need to. From personal experience I know how busy teachers are, so when I receive a reply to a telephone call within twenty minutes I appreciate it greatly."

### Children say

Holly says: "I love school. I love my teachers and I love learning about space this half term. I like reading and writing and doing gymnastics/PE with different teachers. I feel smart in my uniform"

### Remarkable progress

Having taught at a nearby secondary school for some years Emily is well aware of how Maldon Primary has recently changed and improved, and how the pupils who have passed through its classrooms to hers' are achieving more than ever before. "I know that there are some other excellent schools out there but the progress that Maldon Primary has made is remarkable," she says. "It is interesting to see in the older children I teach, how they are learning in a different and very effective way. In my subject of English, for example, I've seen how the phonics method of teaching is producing much better results and I am thrilled about how well Holly is performing. As far as I can tell, her friends are also benefitting so I honestly feel we could not have chosen better."

### No regrets

Holly is so happy at school she misses it during the holidays and at weekends. She also loves Breakfast Club which she attends two days a week. "On her birthday she was given a card signed by every member of the Breakfast Club, and that made her feel very special. For this, and many other reasons, I fully believe that Maldon Primary is absolutely right for our daughter."

