

# MILLIE IS GRATEFUL TO MONEGA PRIMARY SCHOOL FOR THE WONDERFUL SUPPORT GIVEN TO HER SON AND HIS INDIVIDUAL NEEDS

Millie Rodriguez lives in Newham with her partner, Jamie and her three children. Benjamin, six, is in Year 1 and her twin girls are aged three.



## SUPPORTING SPECIAL NEEDS

Millie attended Monega Primary School; having stayed in the area she was happy for Benjamin to attend too. Benjamin has Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD) and Oppositional Defiant Disorder (ODD) and Millie knew she wanted to send him to a mainstream school where he wouldn't feel singled out. "The school and the staff are so lovely. They've given Benjamin and I so much help and support," explains Millie.

**ASPIRE, PERSEVERE, SUCCEED**

## WORKING TOGETHER

Millie has found the staff at Monega to be very approachable. "We are working with the school to try and get Benjamin's writing to a point where we can understand it. They have introduced flashcards and 'Fred Fingers' to help him with his letters and phonics. If he can't understand the letters, the flashcards have images on which help him. When reading, the teacher will write down the words he has problems with so that when he's at home and we're reading with him, we can encourage him to sound it, spell it and say it, which seems to work well for him."

## ALWAYS APPROACHABLE AND HAPPY TO HELP

For Millie, the support she receives from the school is really important in helping Benjamin to understand his ADHD. "He can get so frustrated with his condition." To help Benjamin and his classmates understand what ADHD is and how it affects his behaviour, Millie has asked for the teacher to read a book to the class that explains ADHD in a child-friendly way. "I'm so happy that they are willing to do this. I think this will make a lot of difference to Benjamin and to the rest of the class."

Millie feels the support given by the school has made a real difference to her. "I feel listened to and like someone is on my side. And like they really care about Benjamin and have his best interests at heart."

## STRONG BONDS

Since he's been at the school, Millie has noticed that Benjamin has formed some strong bonds. "He will switch off at the point when he gets frustrated but the dedication and patience given to Benjamin and the understanding of his condition by the SENCO teacher has made such a difference."

## BRILLIANT PROGRESS

Millie is thrilled with the work Benjamin has completed during his time at Monega. "Honestly, I'm shocked! I never even knew Benjamin could do some of the things he's doing." The way school manages to keep Benjamin focused on activities really impresses her. "His attention span is small, but they've managed to teach him a part in a play and all the lines that went with that. It was wonderful to watch. I loved every minute and he was so proud to be involved!"

## PRAISE AND REWARD

Benjamin has loved how his work has been displayed in class and at the front office. "I think it's so important that children feel a sense of pride in what they've achieved and the school is excellent at recognising how hard the children work," says Millie. "They get rewarded with stickers for positive behaviour and hard work and when they get five stickers they get a Golden Ticket, which Benjamin loves. It's the chance to sit in a quiet space and play on the Nintendo DS for a short period of time. It seems to work really well as a motivation to try hard!"

## ONE OF THE BEST SCHOOLS

Millie adds: "Monega Primary School is one of the best schools in the borough. I can't thank the staff enough for the support they are giving us. Nothing seems too much trouble. If it wasn't for Monega Primary School, I honestly don't think Benjamin would have got to the point he has now."



Monega Primary School  
Monega Road  
London, E12 6TT  
Telephone: 020 8472 0533  
Fax: 020 8470 7433  
[info@monega.newham.sch.uk](mailto:info@monega.newham.sch.uk)  
[www.monega.newham.sch.uk](http://www.monega.newham.sch.uk)

### Children say:

Benjamin says: "My favourite thing about school is Golden Ticket hour and getting to play on computer games!"