

RIFAT AND ABU APPRECIATE THE DEDICATED AND SUPPORTIVE APPROACH MONEGA PRIMARY SCHOOL HAS OFFERED TO HELP THEIR TWIN GIRLS SETTLE INTO SCHOOL LIFE

Rifat and Abu Shakil live in Newham with their twin girls, Labiba Rinthia and Lubaba Sinthia, four, in Nursery. Rifat and Abu's girls started at Monega Primary School when they were three. Whilst both children needed lots of support from staff initially to settle in, Rifat and Abu are delighted that their girls will continue their education at Monega.



EXCELLENT SUPPORT

Both girls had been used to being at home with Rifat and when the time came for them to start preschool education, both struggled with separation anxiety. Rifat found that the staff and teachers were excellent in helping them both to find their feet by working with them over a period of time to feel more comfortable in their surroundings. "The twins would sit by the door and cry. It was very difficult for me to leave them when they were both so upset, but the nursery staff worked hard to make sure we all felt happy about the situation."

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FRIENDLY, ATTENTIVE AND CARING

Rifat was able to stay with the girls for a little while but when the time came for her to leave, both would sit by the door waiting for her return. To help support Labiba and Lubaba with their separation anxiety, staff would remain with the girls and play with them in the area of the classroom where they felt safe. "For a couple of months the girls wouldn't leave the area by the door, but the kind and patient support of the staff has meant that they now feel settled and enjoy their time there."

"It took a number of months for my girls to feel sufficiently confident to make friends, but thanks to the school's friendly, attentive and caring staff, they are very happy at Monega Primary School and we know it's the right place for them."

STRONG BONDS

Rifat believes the girls have formed excellent relationships with the staff and that they now consider going into nursery like visiting a friend's house. "My girls love the staff there. They have made a very strong bond with one staff member in particular, which has really made nursery feel like they are visiting a family friend. When things were difficult for the girls, she would stay with them all the time until they felt ready to move around the room and mix with the other children, which was very reassuring for me and for them."

A SAFE ENVIRONMENT

Labiba especially, was noticeably shy when she started at Monega Primary School and would find it difficult to socialise with the other children. "She found it very difficult to speak to other people and was always very quiet," explains Rifat. "But she's gained in confidence during her time in Nursery and is much more able to interact with

other children and the staff now, which is great to see." Rifat believes this is largely thanks to staff giving her lots of options and the freedom to choose activities. "Having the chance to explore her surroundings at her pace rather than being made to do certain activities at defined times has been really appreciated. I believe not putting any pressure on her has helped her to communicate and feel able to interact with others and grow in confidence."

CONTINUED LEARNING

Rifat feels Monega Primary School offers a friendly and caring environment which has nurtured her twin girls. "We've noticed lots of changes in Labiba and Lubaba. We can see them learning new things all the time and doing more things independently. We're very grateful to staff at the school and we are looking forward to them continuing their education at Monega Primary School."



Children say:

Labiba says: "My favourite thing about nursery is my teacher and my friends!"

Lubaba says: "I like going to see my favourite teacher!"



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