

**Bibina believes New North Academy is the best place for her four children with dedicated teachers who provide focused support.**



**Bibina Olenga lives in Islington with her four children. Josiah, 10 in Year 5, Jordan, eight in Year 4, Steven, five in Year 1 and Katie, four in FS2.**



### **A strong focus on support and learning**

Bibina chose New North Academy for her four children after attending parent and child 'stay and play' sessions when the school first opened. "I was familiar with it through those sessions," explains Bibina. "That was when the children were much younger but I am also completing some voluntary work at the school now as part of my child care studies and I like what I see. The focus the children show towards their work and the way the teachers support the children to reach their goals are the things that really stand out."

## Supporting individual needs

Three of Bibina's children have additional needs. Josiah is on the autistic spectrum and when he first started school he displayed some aggressive behaviour. "The school put in place some one-to-one support, which made great changes to Josiah's behaviour. He's a much calmer child now. I'm very grateful to New North for the support and understanding they have shown."

"As he is in Year 5 now they are already thinking ahead about his secondary education and which school may suit his needs best."

## Patience and understanding

Jordan too has additional needs due to Global Development Delay (GDD). Bibina found he was struggling with his concentration levels and his reading. "He's a very physical boy who would struggle to sit still and focus. He would like to play on the floor with small cars. He has had one-to-one support since nursery to help him to focus on the tasks he has in front of him. His teacher's patience has really helped him to learn to listen and his reading is now very good."

## Progress through specialist support

Steven is also diagnosed with GDD. "The teachers at New North Academy have known Steven since nursery and they ensured one-to-one support was in place for Reception. Steven was very focused on things like computer games and music but the one-to-one support provided by the school has seen him move away from these and become more interested in school work. He's reading now which is lovely to see."

## Approachable teaching staff who care

Bibina believes New North Academy are responsible for many of the improvements she has seen in her boys. "I know they feel much supported. I've noticed a difference in Jordan's ability to learn independently because he knows he can ask for help when necessary."

Bibina always finds the staff at the school approachable. "With three of my children having additional needs, I perhaps speak to the teachers more often than most parents. My children are all very different, but I find the teachers very approachable and helpful. We work together so they have some consistency in the way their behaviour is managed."

## The best place for the children to learn

According to Bibina, Katie has settled into school life well. "She's working hard and enjoys school. She really likes her teacher and has developed some good relationships."

Bibina adds: "I feel The New North Academy is the best place for my children to learn. It works hard to teach the children to be independent and the staff are dedicated and focused on the children. They will make sure each child is on the right track from the start."



### Children say:

Josiah says: "I like ICT and the way the teachers help me."

Jordan says: "I like to go to school to work hard!"

Steven says: "I enjoy painting, reading and writing at school."

Katie says: "I really like my teacher!"



### The New North Academy

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