

If you're looking for a school which will develop your child's greatness, Sandra believes New North Academy is the perfect school.



The New North
Academy

Sandra and her family live in Islington. Her son Spencer, aged 8 is in Year 4. Spencer has been at New North Academy since Foundation Stage 2 and Sandra is a parent governor at the school.



Warm, welcoming and caring

One of the key strengths of New North Academy for Sandra is its ethos towards the children. "There's a real warmth at New North Academy. The staff genuinely care about the children. They get the balance of drawing on each child's potential whilst still allowing them to be children just right."

A sense of pride

Visiting New North Academy is a real joy for Sandra; “You walk into the building and immediately there’s a whole array of art work splashed across the walls. It adds vibrancy to the school and there’s a real sense of pride in the children’s progress and their achievements.”

Children matter

Sandra really likes how child-focused the school is and believes this helps to grow confidence in the children. “Each child really does matter at New north Academy.”

“Spencer sits on the School Parliament as Shadow Minister for Culture and Climate Change, which he loves! The children are able to put ideas forward and vote on them. I think it’s a fantastic way to get the children involved, to let them know that their opinion is important and to show them they can make a difference to the school.”

Drawing on staff strengths

Sandra believes the way teachers individual skills are utilised makes New North Academy stand out. “Each morning the older children have literacy and maths with their class teacher; they then move between classrooms for other subjects, to different teachers. Each teacher has a lead subject and I think the school utilises their individual skills well to ensure it is getting the best from the staff and the children.”

“I think it’s a great way of structuring teaching for lots of reasons; it’s gets the children outside of their own classroom and seeing other children’s work displayed. Most importantly though, I think working with different adults is really beneficial for the children. It’s builds a confidence in working with and communicating with different adults, which is an important life skill. The children feel each member of staff is approachable and as a parent, you feel each teacher knows your child well.”

Focused learning

Sandra also believes the way a learning theme is followed through in each of the subjects is a great way of getting the best from each child. “Themes are used as a basis throughout the curriculum. For example, children were learning about deforestation recently and it was used to underpin learning in each of the subjects from art to science. It’s a really good way of developing a child’s interest and understanding in a subject and catering to different learning styles.”

Developing independence

Sandra likes the emphasis New North Academy places on instilling trust, confidence and independence in its children. “The Headteacher really believes these things are important and I think so too. The children make their own way into the school building on a morning from Year 1 which places a lot of trust in them, and moving around the school for lessons all adds to their sense of independence. There’s a real sense it’s the children’s school and I think that’s a good thing.”

Discovering greatness

Just over a year ago, Sandra opted to be a parent governor “It’s a great opportunity to learn more about how the school works, to really understand it and to be involved in shaping it. I love the fact New North Academy is different. It’s a school that believes every child has greatness within them. If you want a school where your child will grow as an individual, this is the school for you.”

Children say:

Spencer says “The school dinners are yummy! Fridays are brilliant because we get to visit places and mum can come too!”



The New North Academy

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