



Lucy and Stuart Gladdish live in Kemsing with Amy, 10 and Thomas, 5.



## Seal Church of England Primary School

At Seal we feel we matter and are valued.  
Together we achieve and succeed.

# Lucy's views about Seal C of E Primary School changed very quickly when she saw how happy the children were...

## From devastated to delighted

Lucy admits that she was devastated when her daughter Amy was allocated Seal C of E Primary School, as her heart had been set on sending her to a local village school. However, just half a term later Lucy changed her opinion, and is now absolutely delighted.

"We live in Kemsing and I'd put the village school down as my first choice for Amy, with Seal School as the second choice," explains Lucy. "I was convinced she would get in and devastated when she didn't. I thought Seal School looked really nice, but I'd heard negative reports and was apprehensive."

## Working well together

After a successful taster day Amy started attending Seal School in September and by the first half term holiday Lucy could not imagine her being happier anywhere else.

"I saw how well the children and teachers worked together and how much they enjoyed school. This is a result of the hard work that the teachers put in, which gains the respect and hard work of the children," says Lucy. "I was really pleased and within half a term realised I'd never change Amy to another school, even if I was offered a place at my first choice school."

## Best behaviour

The behaviour policy at Seal School encourages a caring attitude in all children.

"I love Seal's behavioural policy, because it is so simple and effective," says Lucy. "Discipline is really good and the children respect each other, work well and the teachers and pupils have lots of fun. If a child does something that makes the teacher happy they write their name on the happy side of the board and can receive rewards, which gives them something to work towards. If they make the teacher sad they write their name on the sad side – it's very effective."

## Superb staff

Lucy is delighted at how helpful the teachers at Seal School are.

"Mrs Mitchell the head teacher is great, and as she is a family person has a great understanding of where parents are coming from," explains Lucy.

"The staff are incredibly helpful and this is not just a nine to five job for them. If you have a problem they bend over backwards to help. I once went to a parents' evening and Amy's teacher spent 40 minutes teaching me how to do a maths technique so that I could understand it!"

## Family involvement

Parents are able to get involved with school life as much as they would like to.

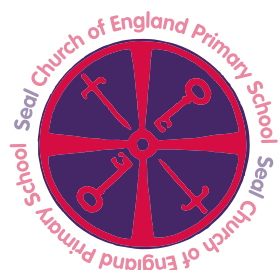
"Being at Seal School is like being part of a big family," says Lucy. "Parents are consulted about decisions, for example we were recently asked about updating the school uniform. You can help out with the PTA at different events and we are encouraged to join in with a Walking on Wednesday initiative where the child gets a point if they walk for some of the journey on that day. Parents can also take picnics on sports days to eat with their children so I would describe the school as fun-filled; it's just lovely."

## High praise

Lucy is full of praise for Seal School and very happy with the progress her children have made.

"I'm so happy that Amy goes to Seal School," says Lucy. "When the time came for her brother to go to school there was no question of him going anywhere else, I only wanted Thomas to go to Seal."

"When he first started Thomas had very poor speech, but the staff did so much to help him, bringing in a private therapist and really encouraging him. His speech has improved so much and I'm delighted with Amy's progress too. There is never a dull moment at Seal School – it's fantastic!"



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**Church of England**  
**Primary School**

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