



# Helen believes Tebay Community Primary School provides a safe, stable and nurturing environment with a strong sense of community and belonging

Helen and Martin Smith live in Tebay with their children Edward, eight in Year 4, Molly, six, in Year 1 and Emily, four in Reception.

## An easy decision

Choosing Tebay Community Primary School for their family was an easy decision for Helen and Martin. "It's a small rural school with strong links within Tebay community. It's our catchment school and Martin went there, plus we knew lots of families whose children were already at the school. It seemed the natural choice for us."



## Understanding each child

The close community feel the school has is a real positive for Helen. "I like how the school is small enough for all of the teachers to know each of the children and their individual personality traits, strengths and weaknesses. I think it really allows them to understand each child as an individual. Children aren't just a number at Tebay Community Primary School.

## A friendly, caring environment

With three children at the school, Helen knows the staff well and has always found them approachable and friendly. "You can always go to them if you need to talk about anything and they're always happy to provide feedback. The staff are kind and relate well to the children. I feel they do a very good job at making school an enjoyable place to be."

## Growing in confidence

According to Helen, Edward has always been the more reserved of her three children, but the encouragement offered by the teaching staff has really helped his confidence to grow. "Normally Edward isn't keen on being involved in the end of year play. The staff are aware he doesn't like being in the spotlight, but because they know him so well, they've been able to motivate him, build his confidence and gently encourage him in a way that has supported his participation. It was really nice to see him so actively involved this year."

## Excellent after school club

As a working mum, Helen relies on the after school club for child care at the end of the school day. "I work shifts and living in a small community this kind of facility is really great," explains Helen. "It's safe, flexible and the children enjoy going. It works really well for us."

## Strong community links

Not only do the children like the school, but the local people do too. "The support the school receives from the local community is really good. They get behind events and help to raise funds for the school. They seem eager to see it flourish. We're such a small area that the school is a key part of the community.

"We've had local people offering their skills to help maintain the school during the summer holidays, when funds have been low. We had a wall built with donated bricks and railings painted. It's not just mum's and dad's of children at the school, but other Tebay residents who are keen to see the school continue to thrive."

## Active parental involvement

Helen has been an active member of the Parents' and Teachers' Association, Friends of Tebay since Edward first joined the school. "It's great to be able to get involved and try and give something back. We've raised funds which have enabled the school to have some additional computers and we're able to help fund transport for school trips. It's rewarding being able to help the school broaden the children's educational experiences."

## No hesitation

Helen adds: "We have no hesitation in recommending the school to others; it's a warm, friendly and inviting school where the children and staff genuinely care about each other. We are so pleased Tebay Community Primary School is our local school."

## Children say:

Edward says: "I like football and sports at school."

Molly says: "I really enjoy art and sports."

Emily says: "I like going on school trips and learning outside."



Tebay Primary School,  
Tebay,  
Penrith.  
Cumbria.  
CA10 3XB.

Tel: 015396 24239  
Email: [admin@tebay.cumbria.sch.uk](mailto:admin@tebay.cumbria.sch.uk)  
[www.tebay.cumbria.sch.uk](http://www.tebay.cumbria.sch.uk)

Head Teacher: Mrs Carol Sharp.  
School Administrator: Mrs Tracy Morland.  
Chair of Governors: Mrs Lisa Bousfield.

