'Together we will make the difference'



Rukshana and Zahid Zeena live in Dewsbury with Khadijah, 11, Yusairah, eight, and Huzaifah, five.

Rukshana wanted a **multi-cultural school** for her children and is **delighted** with the **progress** they are making

Multi-cultural society

"Khadijah started attending Thornhill in Year 3," says Rukshana. "I visited a lot of schools, including one closer to home, but the children who attended that one were predominantly Asian and Muslim like ourselves, and I was keen for our children to experience more of a multi-cultural society.

"I go a little out of my way to take the children to Thornhill, but the school is nice and bright and spacious and it's definitely worth it."



Integration

Rukshana is impressed by how the school integrates children of all needs and abilities.

"When I looked around I saw there was a lot of integration between children with special needs and children with nonspecial needs and I liked that," she says. "I noticed children happily working together in small groups and the school had a very nice vibe to it."

Positive changes

Thornhill's enthusiastic head teacher has implemented several positive changes.

"Mr. Rowland, the head teacher has implemented several changes, which I think are all positive," says Rukshana. "For example, a new senior management team has been formed and the deputy head and other staff are fantastic. They are very approachable and if I don't agree with something I won't hesitate to challenge the school, but I have always find the staff listen to my views and take steps to resolve any issues."

Good progress

Rukshana is very happy with her children' progress.

"They are doing fantastically well," she says. "The school keeps me very well informed and I always know exactly what their targets are and what they need to do to achieve them."

Outstanding facilities

Rukshana is particularly impressed with the music facilities at Thornhill.

"The music facilities are outstanding," she says. "The children can play so many different instruments, from the ukulele to key boards and violin etc. There are some great choirs and a very open policy regarding the use of instruments so the children have lots of opportunities.

"The school also has a big sports field and they have hired a new sports coach so the sports provision is improving all the time."

Recognising achievements

Rukshana recommends Thornhill to other parents and says: "The school is excellent at recognising and rewarding the achievements of children. Every Friday they have an achievers' assembly and each teacher chooses a child from their class who has impressed them the most that week, which could be for extra effort in a subject or being kind etc.

"There is one class assembly every week and all children are encouraged to participate by presenting their work from all subject areas. This gives them the confidence and skills to speak in front of an audience. It is a fantastic school and my children love going."

Khadijah says: "I enjoy taking on lots of grown up responsibilities such as being a junior librarian, a play leader, representing School Council and a lunchtime angel".

Yusairah says: "In my class we are given 'Golden Time' if we are trying our best all the time. Every Friday afternoon we can do our favourite activities like colouring or building. Sometimes our teacher brings us cookies and lollies."

Huzaifah says: "At lunchtime, the supervisors give us a football. I like playing football with all my friends at lunchtime".



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