



Stephen Bornemann and Silvia Ferretti live in Norwich with their two children Martina, nine, in Year 5 and Carla, seven, in Year 3.

Silvia believes Colman Junior School has the means to **provide** her children with a **good academic** background and the **life skills** they need for the future.

### A natural progression

Both of Silvia and Stephen's children had attended Colman Infant School and had made good social connections there. Class sizes were also smaller than other local schools and Silvia and Stephen felt this was better for their girls. "For us, Colman Junior School was a natural progression," says Silvia.





## Excellent leadership

Both parents are enthusiastic about the leadership at Colman Junior School. They feel the school is brimming with positive energy. "During Martina's time at Colman Junior School a new Headteacher has been appointed. She's brought renewed energy and has made some staffing changes which have had a very positive impact," says Silvia.

She adds: "The communication between the staff and parents has improved hugely and is really very good. The website is incredible and we receive regular newsletters, emails and texts."

## Effective reward and behaviour policies

Good behaviour is always highly praised at Colman Junior School. "The children know they have done well and I like how achievements are publicly acknowledged," explains Silvia. "It's good for self-confidence. Afternoon tea and cake with the Headteacher as a Friday reward always fills the children with excited anticipation. It's a wonderful way of marking academic achievement and positive behaviour."

Silvia is also impressed with their proactive approach to negative behaviour. "My girls have had very few issues - a couple with friends, nothing more. Staff have been approachable, helpful, considerate and quick to resolve it," she says.

## Fantastic support and opportunities

Silvia also considers the level of academic support brilliant: "The teachers are really very good at ensuring children are working at the appropriate level. They never give up and will offer booster sessions for those that need it, at both ends of the spectrum."

With some fantastic opportunities available at Colman Junior School there's an extra curricular activity to suit everyone. "Opportunities include a sailing club, Korfbal, music, drama.... The Year 5 children were asked to sing with the BBC Children in Need choir which was a wonderful opportunity. Martina still remembers this as an incredible day!" says Silvia.

## A positive and enjoyable learning environment

According to their delighted parents, Martina and Carla are progressing very well academically. "The staff

do everything they can to encourage a positive learning experience," explains Silvia. "Our children enjoy their lessons, which plays a huge role in progression."

"A new teacher has developed a maths club for the more able children. Each child has been given a lottery ticket for a raffle at the end of the year where they can win a tablet - it's a great incentive to work hard! I really do like the way they encourage learning!"

## Positive attitude

Silvia and Stephen have also noticed some encouraging changes in their daughters' attitudes. "They've become very conscientious. We're sure the praise and the rewards provided by Colman Junior School, and the positive attitude of the teaching staff have significantly contributed to this. The girls are developing the right attitude towards work and have an enjoyment for learning. It's very pleasing to see!"

Silvia adds: "Colman Junior School continues to grow. It's an environment where children can learn a good mix of both academic and social skills. Each child is shown respect as an individual as well as encouraged to respect others. We have no hesitation in recommending it to others."

### Children say:

Martina says: "The chance to perform with the BBC Children in Need choir was amazing! That's been my favourite part of school so far, but there have been lots of fun things!"

Carla says: "I've made some nice friends at Colman Junior School and I really like my teachers. They make learning fun!"



### Colman Junior School

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