

Kate cannot fault the support her family receives from Ellison Primary School to ensure her son's health needs are met

Kate and Terry McDermott live in Wolstanton with their children Ryan, seven in Year 2 and Lauren, eleven in Year 6.



Family connections

Choosing Ellison Primary School was an easy decision for Kate and Terry. It was the school Kate and her brother attended as a child, as well as her mother. With strong family connections, and relatives who first started the Parents' Association, it seemed right for Kate's own children to attend.

Impeccable care

Ryan was diagnosed as having Type 1 diabetes in Year 1. "When we first found out about Ryan's diagnosis, the steps the school put in place to ensure Ryan was safe at school were excellent. Staff have been trained by the specialist diabetic nurse to a competent standard and signed off to give the care which Ryan requires daily. I can't fault the care they have given to Ryan and to us as a family," says Kate.

Ensuring inclusion

"The staff have been fantastic in ensuring Ryan can be involved in everything. They allow his Grandad to attend school trips so that he can still be injected and receive his medication. Whilst in school there are trained staff who can do this, but they can't always go on trips. Allowing my dad to go along means Ryan doesn't miss out."

Not only has diabetes been a big change for Ryan, but it's had an impact on Lauren's life too. "She's seen big changes in what we have to do for Ryan. She's a really caring big sister and always checks up on him at school. The staff always make sure she's OK and happy too."

Children say

Ryan says: "I love all the different subjects I get to learn at. I love learning!"

Lauren says: "The school is really fun and the teachers really caring."