



# Keen student Euan is using his voice to benefit other pupils by serving on the school council at Cardinal Newman Catholic High School

Victoria and Chris live in Warrington with their sons, Euan, aged 13, and Caleb, aged 4.

## Video success

Euan, who is in Year Eight at Cardinal Newman, seized his opportunity to help shape the direction of the school by applying to be on the school council. Euan says: "I was asked to make a video explaining why I wanted to be on the school council and outlining what I felt I could bring to it. After I submitted my video, I was delighted to be picked."

## Student input

One of Euan's jobs is interviewing staff applying to work at the school. He says: "The Headteacher says that the students are the most important part of the school and values their input in the selection of new staff, this means that we interview the candidates and talk to the Headteacher afterwards about who we liked and why we would like them as our teacher. The school council hold regular meetings in the library, and we discuss a wide variety of topics such as what the eco warriors are doing to make the school community a cleaner and greener place. I am always interested in hearing the views of other students and very much enjoy being a member of the school council, as the ICT coordinator for the council, I am responsible for keeping the school council section of the web page updated."

*Service: Compassion: Forgiveness: Truth*





### Drama taster

Euan's Mum, Victoria, says: "Euan went to a feeder school for Cardinal Newman and moved up with the children from his school, but he has made new friends since. Euan already knew the school because he had attended Science and Maths workshops there. When we went to the open evening, Euan was very interested in looking at the work students were able to produce in drama and really enjoyed talking to the drama teacher about the opportunities within this subject."

### Enjoying lessons

Euan says: "I love drama and have been involved in it outside school since the age of seven. Now I am at high school, I am glad to have the opportunity to do a drama lesson once a week. I would love to study drama as one of my GCSEs and am looking forward to being able to take part in school productions in years nine, ten and eleven. My other favourite subject is Maths and I enjoy being challenged and learning new things."

### Impressive home schooling

Victoria says: "Euan missed some of Year Seven because of the Covid lockdown. He was only able to go into Cardinal Newman for a few days and then had to work from home. We were very impressed with how they dealt with home schooling as it had

been a bit haphazard at primary school. Cardinal Newman put a timetable together for the pupils to follow and set regular homework".

### Great atmosphere

"When Euan finally got the chance to go into the school, he loved it. There are very good teachers at Cardinal Newman and the school has a lovely atmosphere. Students are now able to move around the building and go into the language rooms, which they couldn't do during the restrictions. The staff say Euan is achieving above his expected level in Maths and Drama and is where he should be in the other subjects. We didn't know what to expect after being out of school for part of Year Seven so we were very pleased with this. There is always someone from the pastoral team for the children to talk to if they have any worries and they have really helped students manage their anxieties about being back in school," Victoria says.

### Encouraging respect

"We like the Catholic ethos of Cardinal Newman. We are a Catholic family, but it is more important to us that there is such a strong moral code running the school. The children are taught how important it is for them to respect each other and this is reflected in the atmosphere throughout the school."



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