

# Amit and Krishna are delighted son Yuvraj got the chance to go to St Aidan's Catholic Primary Academy

Amit and Krishna Nagla live in Seven Kings, Ilford, with their son Yuvraj, eight, and daughter, Kaashi, two.



## Celebrating diversity

Amit and Krishna chose St Aidan's for Yuvraj because they admired the way the school celebrates the diversity of all the families whose children go there. But although Yuvraj had attended the nursery at St Aidan's, the family was devastated when he was not offered a place in the reception class at the school. Amit says: "We looked round the other two schools the council had suggested but thought they were very old fashioned. Both schools seemed to be attended predominantly by one religious group and I formed the impression that one of them had not really moved on much since I had been there when I was a boy."



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Catholic Primary Academy**

## Happy and successful

Amit and Krishna were so disappointed they went back to St Aidan's to ask for advice and staff suggested that they appealed against the decision. "Thank goodness we did, as, happily, our appeal was upheld and Yuvraj was able to move up into the reception class. We were told that it was unusual to win an appeal and so we were very grateful," Amit says. "Yuvraj has had a very happy and successful time at the school since then and we are now looking forward to Kaashi starting in the nursery at St Aidan's in September when she is three."

## Understanding faiths

Amit says religion is a big part of his family's life and it is important to them that St Aidan's, which is a Catholic school, welcomes all faiths. "We are a Hindu family and so we are glad that the school celebrates our festival of Diwali. We are also pleased that the school helps the children understand many other different faiths," he says.

## Enjoying Maths

Yuvraj is doing well academically at the school. "All the teachers are fantastic, but his current class teacher has been particularly good and has brought him on in leaps and bounds. His teacher is very happy with his Maths, English and writing," Amit says. "Yuvraj has said his favourite subject is Maths and he really enjoys the way St Aidan's teach it." Amit also thinks the discipline in the school is excellent. "The children learn to speak very well, to listen to their teacher and they get used to having to do their homework on time."

## Making music

Yuvraj has enjoyed the many creative opportunities offered by St Aidan's. Amit says: "He likes to be in plays and to take part in dancing and he is now learning the violin. We attended his assembly and saw how much he enjoyed playing his violin." Yuvraj is also learning the Indian flute out of school. Amit says: "Because we are a very musical family and I play the Indian drums, we held a function at St Aidan's, which raised £680 for school funds. My whole family came and played the music and provided the food for 250 people. I take pride in St Aidan's and want to do as much as I can to help the school."

## Competitive football

There are plenty of after school activities for the children at St Aidan's. "Yuvraj is in the chess club and enjoys playing football. He has now been chosen for the school football team and will start playing against teams from other schools when he goes into Year Four," Amit says.

## Chance to study

Amit would wholeheartedly recommend St Aidan's to other parents. "To anyone thinking of sending their child to St Aidan's I would say: Your child will develop into a mature, well-rounded person who will appreciate the opportunity given to them to study and your family will be made to feel very welcome at the school."



## Children say

Yuvraj says: "I look forward to going to school every morning. I enjoy being in class and learning. I also love the school dinners and enjoy playing in the playground."



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