

Moving to St Aidan's Catholic Primary Academy made all the difference to Gurveen and Rohun

Jeevan Singh and Sandeep Kaur live in Seven Kings, Ilford with their daughter, Gurveen, 11, and son, Rohun Singh Johal, nine.



Gold medal winner

Jeevan and Sandeep took their children out of another school so they could attend St Aidan's Catholic Primary Academy. Jeevan says: "My daughter spent only two years at St Aidan's but was considerably improved by the school. She won a gold medal, the end of year award for Year Six. She was chosen by the head teacher for being a kind and thoughtful girl. I am very proud of it and now have it framed on the wall of my home."



**St Aidan's
Catholic Primary Academy**

Well prepared for secondary school

"The teachers at St Aidan's still ask about my daughter. They want to know how she is getting on and are thrilled to hear she is doing well at her secondary school, which is a multicultural academy," Jeevan says. "People often comment on how well my children speak and I tell them it is due to St Aidan's. There has been an exceptional improvement in their English vocabulary. Gurveen has reached a high level in both English and Maths for her age."

Right move to make

Rohun started at St Aidan's in Year Two. Now in Year Four, he has settled in happily at the school, Jeevan says. "I had heard a lot about St Aidan's and my neighbours' children attended. I was impressed with the uniform they wore and the way they acted and spoke and so I went to have a look round the school myself. I have never regretted moving my children to St Aidan's."

Teaching good morals

Jeevan is comfortable with the fact that St Aidan's is a Catholic school. "Although I am a Sikh and not a Catholic myself, I like the spiritual nature of the school. Your own faith isn't put on the back burner. My beliefs tell me that the school teaches the right morals to the children."

Understanding staff

"My daughter suffered from allergy problems, which St Aidan's recognised. They put protocols in place to deal with the situation and each time there was a trip I would receive a telephone call asking for my authorisation. I have found that the school are very helpful when it comes to dealing with your children's needs. If there is ever a problem, the teachers will invite you in to help work out a solution. All the staff at the school know you by name and are very respectful towards you," says Jeevan.

Importance of uniform

"We had to sign a parent, student and teacher agreement and everyone tries to stick to their side of the bargain. I feel that the uniform of trousers, shirt and tie is important. The children are used to it when they go into secondary school and during the rest of their life when they have to wear a shirt and tie at work," says Jeevan.

Good start with music

"It is great that the school provides the children with the chance to develop their creative side. My son has learnt to play the recorder and is now learning the viola. At Gurveen's secondary school they can all learn a musical instrument, so St Aidan's gives the children a good start."

Welcoming and communicative

Jeevan would say to any parents considering St Aidan's: "It is a great school and you won't go wrong sending your child there. The staff are all very welcoming and good at communicating. Because my children have been to school elsewhere, I am able to appreciate how good St Aidan's actually is. We were very lucky to be able to change schools."



Children say

Gurveen says: "I really like the way they taught us at St Aidan's. They made all the lessons fun and included everyone. I particularly enjoyed Mantle of the Expert activities. In Year Five and Year Six we ran imaginary companies that we had to advertise around the school."



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St Aidan's Catholic Primary Academy
Benton Rd
Ilford
IG1 4AS
London

Phone: 020 8590 5223
email: admin@st-aidans.redbridge.sch.uk
www.staidansacademy.org