



St Francis Xavier Catholic Primary School

Let God's love shine in our lives, as we care, share and learn together



Arif and Claire live in Balby with their son, Rafi, aged eight, and daughter Jenna, aged six.

Arif and Claire are **happy** that their children are **thriving** in the **welcoming climate** of St Francis Xavier Catholic Primary School

School choice

Both parents chose St Francis Xavier Catholic Primary School for their children because they believe a faith school does instil a good level of discipline in its pupils. Arif says: "Having a non-Catholic faith didn't deter me from the school's Catholic ethos, in fact the opposite, because we believe the environment is conducive to promoting well-balanced children and we haven't been disappointed. Despite living very close to St Francis Xavier this was not a determining factor when choosing our children's first school."

Rafi's thoughts

Rafi started in the reception class at the age of four and has thoroughly enjoyed his time at the school. Arif says: "Rafi loves everything about the school; he enjoys the friendly environment and time with all his friends and teachers. He likes all subjects but particularly enjoys reading, Maths, Science and art lessons. He particularly enjoys learning to play the guitar."

Jenna's thoughts

Jenna also started at the school at the age of four in the reception class and has settled in well and been happy at the school. Arif says: "Jenna is really coming on with her reading and enjoys her Maths lessons. She has made some fantastic friends that she loves to play with at break and lunchtime."

Respect for diversity

Arif feels that all faiths are welcomed by the school. He says: "St Francis Xavier have a strong policy of respecting diversity. The children are encouraged to embrace, respect and accept the diversity of all their fellow pupils. I was invited in by the Headteacher, Mr Collins, to talk about the Islamic faith and I was very positively received."

Variety of faiths

The school has shown that they believe everyone has a right to their personal faith and values and is happy for them to share it, Arif says. "I had discussed what I was going to talk about with Mr

Collins beforehand because I knew he wanted the children to learn about a variety of faiths. I went round all the classrooms talking to the different classes about my faith and was pleased that the children listened with interest and were genuinely eager to learn and understand, again reflective of the positive environment the school promotes."

Mixing well

Claire says: "There are children from many different nationalities and faiths who attend the school and everyone mixes well. The school has a fantastic atmosphere. The teachers are familiar with all the school's children, not just the ones they teach. There are events for parents as well as for the children during the year and the main occasions, such as sports day, the summer fair and festivals, are always well attended."

Right direction

Arif says: "I would definitely recommend St Francis Xavier to any parent as my children are thoroughly happy here and I feel it is a school that is progressing quickly."



Rafi says: "I love St Francis Xavier. It's awesome."

Jenna says: "I like going to school for reading and learning different things."



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