



Tayler has grown in confidence and acquired valuable skills in the happy atmosphere at Hebden Green

Jackie and David live in Cheshire with their daughter, Tayler, aged 18. Tayler has quadriplegic cerebral palsy. She has been a pupil at Hebden Green since she was 12.

Reading and Maths

Tayler is about to begin her last year at Hebden Green, having had a marvellous six years at the school. Her Mum, Jackie, says: "Since starting at Hebden Green she has come on in leaps and bounds. The school have given her life skills and she can now read a lot of words and understand basic maths. She was always reasonably confident but is now even more self assured. The school concentrate on the children's strong points. If they see something they are good at they will work on that area to help them do really well at something, which I think is a good idea."

Good recommendation

Tayler attended a mainstream primary school but moved to Hebden Green instead of going to a mainstream secondary school. Jackie says: "The primary school had been marvellous with Tayler and had adapted their facilities for her. I wanted her to go to a mainstream secondary school but the head teacher said: 'Please go and see this school I have suggested. Don't worry about the transport, we'll sort that out later.' Because I trusted her, I went to have a look at Hebden Green."

Caring teachers

"I had a good feeling about the place as soon as I walked in. The staff are all wonderful and treat the pupils with dignity and respect. If we'd known the school was out there when Tayler was younger we wouldn't have gone down the route of mainstream education at all," Jackie says. "Tayler travels to Hebden Green in a minibus every day which takes about an hour. She is transferred into an electric wheelchair when she gets there. She has very limited control of her hands and needs full personal care. She also has a visual impairment which makes it difficult for her to read or record her work."

Moving on

"They have marvellous facilities at Hebden Green, including a hydrotherapy pool. They employ physiotherapists and nurses as well as teachers so the children have everything they need all on one site," Jackie says. "Tayler can only see big writing but can use an iPad with just one finger. She likes discussing things in English lessons and shows a good level of understanding. We are now looking at a college for her and then aiming to get her into independent living. The staff are helping us with Tayler's application for college. They always try to take the pressure off you and if you ever ring to ask about something they will get straight back to you with the answer."

Credit to the school

Jackie says: "Tayler is vivacious with a marvellous sense of humour. She's a pleasure to be with and gets on well with the rest of our family. She likes going out for meals and we are confident we can take her anywhere. She has very good manners, which gets noticed a lot and makes me proud of her. I can't speak highly enough of the school and all they have done for her. They have residential nights at the school which Tayler looks forward to. I like her to go because it is preparing her for independent living. They have meals to celebrate special events and keep the children up to speed with what is going on in the world. Tayler loves going to the school and will be sad to leave. I have always said that if I won a million pounds tomorrow, I'd give it straight to Hebden Green."



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