



Zack is enjoying all aspects of his new life in Cheshire and has settled in well at Hebden Green School

Sharon and her partner Nigel live in Winsford with Sharon's son, Zack, aged 18. Zack has cerebral palsy and learning difficulties and transferred to Hebden Green School just under a year ago.

New school

A family move to Cheshire meant Zack had to change schools in November last year but he has settled in well at Hebden Green and is now enjoying all aspects of his new life at the school. Zack's mother's partner, Nigel, says: "We were so impressed with Hebden Green School when we went to look round it that we chose to buy a property nearby. We weren't sure how well Zack would adapt to his new school but we are delighted to find that he has settled in really well. They made him feel very welcome and took all his needs into consideration."

Communication skills

Zack will have another year at Hebden Green and then he will be going to college. Nigel says: "The school have helped us apply to a suitable college where Zack has already been offered a place. They have really brought him on since he started and have encouraged him to use an iPad to help him record his work. He enjoys Maths and English lessons and they have helped his communication skills, which he has had difficulty with in the past. Zack enjoys talking and will communicate well if someone is prepared to listen to him."

Good care

Nigel says that at his previous school Zack wasn't given the same attention that he is now being given at Hebden Green. "He now looks forward to going to school because he enjoys himself so much there and he likes all the different activities. He is receiving good care from all the staff."

Music and sports

Zack likes going in the hydrotherapy pool at the school because he loves playing in the water and he also enjoys music lessons and playing the acoustic guitar. Nigel says: "He loves going to the after school club on a Wednesday. He has tea at the school and then they play sports. He is permanently in a wheelchair, but he enjoys hockey, football and archery. He is always very active and he likes to get involved in everything."

Happy pupils

"I would definitely recommend Hebden Green to other parents. You can rely on the staff to be accommodating to any disability," Nigel says. "They make both the pupils and parents feel welcome at all times and the teachers always have smiles on their faces. The school feels like it is a happy place to be in. Whenever you go there you see that all the children seem happy and I think that is because of the wonderful care they get from the staff."

Helpful staff

Nigel says the staff have all taken a big interest in Zak. "They have helped him with his speech and given him physiotherapy. They have also assisted us with other things as a family. They will advise us as best they can whenever we have queries. I can't fault the school and therefore would not hesitate to recommend it to others."

Social life

Away from school, Zack enjoys spending time with his large extended family. Nigel says: "He likes the company of sisters and his step brother. We always have a very open house and there are plenty of visitors for Zack to talk to. Zack likes being with other people, that's why he enjoys Hebden Green so much, because there is always something going on at the school."



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