









Simone and Lee Justice live in Burnham in Berkshire with their sons, Charlie, aged 14, and Reggie, aged 11. Reggie attended Littledown Special School for more than a year after leaving his mainstream primary school because of behavioural issues.

Short spell at Littledown Special School has worked wonders with Reggie

Supportive staff

It took just over a year of dedicated help and support from the staff at Littledown to get Reggie back on track and into a mainstream school again. His Mum, Simone, says: 'Littledown worked wonders with Reggie and I can't thank the staff enough for all they have done for him. I feel that I have got my little boy back again.'

Change in behaviour

'Reggie left his mainstream primary school during Year Five to start at Littledown because of his behavioural issues. After completing the rest of Year Five and the whole of Year Six at Littledown, he is now back in mainstream education and doing well at his secondary school,' Simone says.

Rapid improvement

'Reggie didn't get on with his teachers when he was in primary school and felt they never listened to him. He was in a big class and they didn't have the time to deal with him. But the change in his behaviour after being at Littledown is amazing. I am so grateful to the school. Reggie used to get very angry with me but now he is a lot calmer,' Simone says.

Helpful approach

Littledown taught Reggie the same subjects as his primary school, but it was the way they dealt with him that turned him around, Simone says. 'It is a small school with very nice staff and has a real family feel. While Reggie was there his Dad had an accident and couldn't work for a while. I notified the school in case it affected Reggie's behaviour and the support they gave us was outstanding.'

Respect for teachers

'At Littledown he was taught in a small class so he was able to get the attention he needed from the teacher and teaching assistants. He listened to them and respected them more than the staff at his mainstream primary school and they seemed to handle him the right way.'

School visits

'Littledown is about a 15-minute drive from where we live and Reggie went there and back on a school bus. The staff all worked hard with Reggie, but one particular teacher, Adrian, was brilliant with him and really went the extra mile. He used to take him into a mainstream school to reintegrate him and it worked.'

Inspiring work

'The staff work wonders with the children and the communication they have with the parents is outstanding. Words just can't describe how great they are. The change they achieved with Reggie inspired me to embark on a new career myself. I had been working as a care worker for elderly people but I left my job and retrained. I now work as a support assistant in a special school working with disabled children and children with behavioural issues and special needs. This has all come about as a result of Reggie's experience at Littledown,' Simone says.

Fresh start

'Reggie is now in Year Seven at a secondary school in Maidenhead. To begin with he had a SENCO worker sitting with him in the classroom, but he didn't like that. He said: 'This is supposed to be my fresh start, Mum.' So I asked them to back off a bit and now he manages without having anyone with him.'

Football fan

'According to his teachers his academic levels are where they should be and Reggie loves school now,' Simone says. 'He is very sporty and enjoys doing the after school clubs. He is football mad and missed playing when he was out of mainstream schooling but he is now at the same school as his brother and in the football team.'

Children say

Reggie says: 'I liked going with my mentor to visit the middle school.'



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