

Kayden, Hadley and Harlem now have hopes for the future because their lives have been turned around by staff at Oastlers School

Charlene lives in Bradford with her three sons, Kayden, aged 17, Hadley, aged 15, and Harlem, aged 12.



Dedicated teachers

Charlene can't praise the staff at Oastlers School enough for their care and dedication, which has helped transform the lives of her three sons. She says: "They have done everything they possibly can to help my three children, whereas the other schools they have attended didn't give them a chance."



GCSE success

Charlene's son, Kayden, is now looking ahead to starting an apprenticeship as a plumber, having gained five GCSEs at Oastlers. She says: "When Kayden was younger he was diagnosed with ADHD and autism and, after experiencing a traumatic event in his life, he became very unsettled and did not thrive at school."

Intensive tuition

"Even after he started at Oastlers, he did not improve much to begin with, but then the school moved him to Churchill class where there were more teachers and more intensive tuition and he suddenly turned the corner. The wonderful staff at Oastlers went above and beyond to help Kayden."

Helpful staff

Charlene says her 15-year-old son, Hadley, who is in Y11 at Oastlers, also had a lot of problems in the early years of his education. "It ended up with him being excluded and he was out of school for about two and a half years. He couldn't read and write and so I was desperate for a place to come up at Oastlers for him. When he finally started there, the staff managed to get through to him."

Good relationship

"I can't praise the school enough for what they have done for Hadley. He now has a good relationship with the staff and they have helped him sort some of his problems out. I used to think Hadley wouldn't get anywhere in life, but now he is thriving in the school and is set to take his GCSEs next year."

Design technology success

Charlene believes the secret of the school's success lies in how the staff talk to the children. "They manage to get through to them somehow, whereas teachers at other schools haven't been able to. Hadley has had intensive tuition in Churchill class at the school for children of different ages. He is doing really well in design technology and brings home wonderful things he has made. The staff at Oastlers have managed to bring this side of him out and now he has much better prospects for work."

Weekly update

"Harlem, who is 12, has now started in Y7. It took him a while to settle in, but the school have just been getting on with it. When they were at other schools, I was constantly getting phone calls asking me to pick them up because they had done something wrong, but Oastlers deal with everything on the day and just give you a weekly phone call to tell you how they are getting on. I am very grateful they are now helping Harlem because it is possible that he has ADHD and autism, but there is always a long wait for a definitive diagnosis. Harlem likes all his teachers and I can't praise them enough for what they are doing for him," Charlene says.

Enjoying school life

"All three of my sons have enjoyed going to Oastlers. None of them have ever got up in the morning and said they didn't want to go. The staff have helped them overcome their problems and given them access to education. They have also given them the chance of a bright future. I didn't think Kayden would get anywhere in life and now he has some qualifications and a definite career plan."



Oastlers School

Flockton Road, Bradford, BD4 7RH, West Yorkshire

Tel: 01274 307456, email: office@oastlers.co.uk, Website: www.oastlers.com, Twitter: @Oastler_School