

Callum is being helped to achieve to the best of his ability with a sixth form course created especially for him by the caring staff at Oastlers School

Julie and Philip live in Baidon with their daughters, Claire, aged 28, Beth, aged 18, and son, Callum, aged 16.



Respectful teachers

Julie and Philip feel very lucky to have found such a good school as Oastlers for their son, Callum. Julie says: "Just as your child is unique to you, they are unique to the staff at Oastlers. All the staff respect the children they are teaching and the Head Teacher, Mrs Brown, thinks every child is an individual and is important."



Impressive school

Julie says Callum has additional needs and a learning disability. She says: "He had to leave his mainstream primary school and go to a pupil referral unit, where he had some difficult times. When we were looking for a good secondary school for Callum, we visited Oastlers in Bradford and we got a great first impression of the school. We recognised some children who had attended Callum's pupil referral unit and could see that they were totally transformed from what they had been like before."

Good relationships

Callum joined Y7 at Oastlers School at the age of 11. Julie says: "He settled well when he first started at the school because he was surrounded by people who understood him. When you're walking round the school you can see the staff have a good relationship with the children. The school has a lovely atmosphere and feels very calm."

Academic success

"Callum has now taken some GCSEs and started in the sixth form. He still has some issues but has done very well along the way. He has embarked on a sixth form course that has been created specially for him to match his ability."

Cricket enthusiast

"He enjoys sport, in particular cricket. Although there is no school cricket team the staff have geared lessons around cricket, for Callum. During lockdown they organised for an England cricket coach to do virtual lessons with them. He also did a piece of coursework for his GCSEs all about cricket and the history of the game. They are now working on the core subjects of maths and English with him."

Excellent communications

"Our relationship with the school has been good and we have a messaging system with them, so they are aware if he has been upset at home, and we are aware of what has happened during the day at school. He has been very happy at the school and has never said he didn't want to go at any time."

Fulfilling potential

"We count ourselves lucky to have found such a good school as Oastlers for him. We have never been contacted by the staff and asked to take him home, which happened regularly at his previous schools. They don't expect all the children to be the same and to be able to conform to a rigid set of requirements. The children know they are respected by the staff and the staff will work round your child to get the best out of them."

Everyone included

"Oastlers have a lovely system of rewarding the children for good work. If they get a certain number of points, they are taken on a reward trip. They have gone fishing or bowling or for a pizza at various times. The Head Teacher has said that whenever she has organised a major school trip to a place far afield, such as London, she has never had to leave a child behind," Julie says.

Confidence in staff

"Callum has done better at Oastlers than we could ever have envisaged. We couldn't be happier with the school and are confident that the dedicated staff will continue to help him to achieve to the best of his ability."

Children say

Callum says: "I feel safe and happy at school."



Oastlers School

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