

# Emma and David are delighted with the encouragement given to their gifted daughters at Midfield Primary School



Emma and David Brew-Riverson live in Orpington with their daughters, Davina, aged nine, and Aimee, aged seven.



## Seeing potential

The teachers at Midfield were quick to spot the potential in both Davina and Aimee and have given them lots of support and encouragement, says Emma. "Both girls were identified as being gifted and talented at an early stage and have been encouraged to progress. We are very pleased that they have been sent to have lessons with older children and that their achievements have not been limited at all."

## Good start

Davina started at the age of three in the nursery at Midfield. Emma says: "We originally chose Midfield because the school were displaying a banner outside advertising that there were nursery places available. It was a very good nursery that helped get the children used to being in a classroom environment. We decided we wanted Davina to start in the main school when it was time for her to go into Year One and then Aimee couldn't wait to follow her into the nursery."

## Encouraging progress

Davina got on well in Year One and found the teachers friendly and supportive. "They thought she was bright and quickly identified the potential in her and encouraged it. When they thought she had gone ahead of her classmates they sent her up to Year Two to have Maths lessons. It was very reassuring and comforting to know that the teachers were helping her to progress and not limiting her," Emma says.

## Artistic talent

"The teachers also found out that Davina was good at Art. When they were fund raising for the school swimming pool they asked the children to bring in drawings of a badge or a logo for a competition and she was one of the winners. They have continued to encourage her to work at her art and she has now started sculpting as well as drawing and painting," says Emma.

## Higher classes

Aimee is now in Year Two. "She was very shy when she started but the teachers were kind and motherly towards her. She has an egg allergy which means she has to have a restricted diet, but they look after her, which gives us peace of mind," Emma says. "When we went to her parents evening they described her ability as 'off the scale' but they are supporting her and sending her to higher classes for Maths and English and encouraging her to read more advanced books."

## Reassuring reports

Emma said that the girls' school reports show how Midfield recognise and are helping to foster their ability. "They said Aimee is working at an above average level for her age in Maths and is an extremely confident and fluent reader and that Davina is a highly-accomplished mathematician.

"The girls also do music lessons at lunchtime and have swimming lessons and go to after school clubs. They produce well rounded children at Midfield and don't just concentrate on the academic side," Emma says.

## Happy environment

"Both girls have a wide circle of friends and all the children at Midfield are taught that everyone should be treated with respect. When Davina was in Year One she was the only black girl in the class but everyone was friendly towards her," Emma recalls. "We are confident she will do well at secondary school because of the quality of the education she has received at Midfield."

## Every child matters

Emma says: "I would be happy to tell other parents that Midfield is definitely the right place for their children. The class sizes are not too big and you can be sure of individual attention being given to every child."



## Children say:

Davina says: "I love my school and have lots of fun and some great friends."

Aimee says: "I love going to school every day and am excited about learning new things."



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