



Stefanie Jones lives in Kingswinford with her two children Jake, six, in Year 1 and Lauren, nine, in Year 4.

Stefanie values Crestwood Park Primary School's **positive attitude** to diversity and is grateful for the support they have given her family

### **The Crestwood Park family**

Whilst Crestwood Park Primary School is not the closest to Stefanie's home, she chose it because of the positive links it had to Jake and Lauren's Nursery, Poppyfields, which is part of the Crestwood Park family. "The nursery had been great for both of my children. It has such a good relationship with the school and the Reception staff at Crestwood Park Primary School that the school felt like the natural progression for both Lauren and Jake."



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## Excellent, supportive staff

For Stefanie, the key strength of the school is the staff. Jake was born prematurely and without any balance, so he uses a wheelchair to get around and a walking frame. "I'd been really happy with the school for Lauren and I wanted Jake to go to there too. The Local Education Authority (LEA) wanted me to move him to a school which had already been adapted, but when I spoke to the Headteacher at Crestwood Park the school had no issues at all in putting in place the adaptations needed for Jake. They've really been excellent, incredibly supportive and I cannot fault them!"

## A positive attitude and a proactive approach

Stefanie has been thrilled with the school's proactive approach in ensuring Jake can maintain his independence in school. A lift has been added so that he can get between floors and ramps around the classrooms to ensure they are accessible for Jake's wheelchair. "I knew it was the right school for my children and I really didn't want to send Jake elsewhere. Crestwood Park's attitude is extremely positive and has meant Jake can go to the school I felt was right for him. I couldn't be more grateful!"

## Every child is valued

Stefanie adds: "I like the values they teach to the children too, to look beyond any special needs and to value each other as people. They teach them that every child is special. Both Jake and Lauren have grown in confidence and I really think this has a lot to do with the attitudes of the school!"

## Fulfilling potential

Both children, according to Stefanie are doing very well at Crestwood Park Primary School. "Lauren is in top sets for her classes and is progressing very well. I like how the teachers recognise individual talents and skills and ensure each child is challenged to reach their full potential. Lauren loves school, which is wonderful!"

## Equal opportunities

Jake too is doing well and Stefanie has been impressed with the little things the school has also put in place to make everyday school life easier and fully inclusive for him. "He uses a special pencil that he can grip and the teachers adapt PE lessons for him. They're small things but they make all the difference to Jake. It means he can join in and has the same opportunities as everyone else."

The school have also put in a support worker to assist Jake with his mobility. "She was employed especially for Jake and helps him with things like getting on and off the stage for school plays, she carries his lunch tray and helps him on school trips. She's a great source of support for Jake and ensures he can join in like any other child."

## Best interests of each child

Stefanie adds: "Crestwood Park Primary School is a wonderful school which supports both children and their parents. They value all children and help each one to reach their full potential. They've been incredibly supportive right from the point of application. I really wouldn't want my children to go anywhere else!"

### Children say:

Lauren says: "I love the art lessons at Crestwood Park Primary School. They're really good!"

Jake says: "My favourite thing about school is the teachers because they really help me with my learning!"



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