

## FREWEN PREP SCHOOL: A PARENT'S VIEW



" Archie's diagnosis of Dyslexia, Dyscalculia, Dyspraxia and Sensory Processing Disorder, or 3D with super sensors as Archie likes to call it, was not a 'head in the hands' moment, but rather more like a clearing of the fog. We now had an explanation of why he had been struggling at school, and a direction in which to head.

As parents we all want our children to be healthy and happy, and to give them the best start in life that we possibly can. For us, a large component of that is to ensure that they get the right education to enable them to achieve their full potential, and to believe in themselves and their abilities. Once we knew what help Archie was going to need, we set about finding the right school for him...we found Frewen.

Archie joined Frewen Prep School in January 2014, aged 9. He had not been coping in mainstream education; he had been bullied and felt ostracized for being different, as he had to have a TA for every lesson. Archie could not keep up in lessons and had started to give up, trying to avoid school and withdrawing into himself.

Frewen was a revelation: a school with small classes of a similar peer group, a creative curriculum with a multi sensory approach, delivered by experienced and specifically qualified teachers that absolutely understand the children, in a happy and secure environment. The staff at Frewen made us feel very welcome and we could see Archie's shoulders visibly dropping as he started to relax and regain his self esteem.

Archie is now able to access the curriculum through their methods of teaching; he loves 'learning by doing' and is now getting the education that he deserves.

The move from the Prep School to the larger Senior School was handled expertly by the school. A sympathetic transition programme overseen by one key member of staff, over a comfortable period of time, ensured that any anxieties and fears that the children (and parents) may have had were allayed. There were many activities organised at the senior school, and a 'buddy' system helped the children get to know the older pupils as well as different teaching staff. Consequently Archie felt completely comfortable and ready to move into the senior school when the time came, in fact he really looked forward to it, especially the mountain biking and DT lessons that he had tried.

The Senior School also follows the Creative Curriculum and has the all important small class sizes. Archie has leapt forward academically as well as socially with the help of the staff and on-site occupational therapists. The pastoral care at Frewen is exceptional and Archie could not be happier. "

" Frewen is not a 'Special School' it is a 'Very Special School' that we feel very fortunate to have found and we would not hesitate in recommending it to anyone." Mrs A. R, current parent