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he is making so much progress”

Gent's Mum



Gent's parents arrived in London from Kosovo in 1994: war was about to break out in their homeland and they knew that the multicultural capital offered them a safe and vibrant place to live and raise a family of their own.

His father found work and when Gent was born in 1999 his mother Belkize, thought their family was complete. Two years later, the family GP introduced them to a word they had never heard of - autism.

“I had no idea what autism was, or what the doctor was telling me. It was almost impossible to absorb the fact that this is forever,” said Belkize.

She is full of admiration about the medical support and help she received from social services teams in Camden. Gent was offered a place at Kestrel House School when he was nine years old and now the family is full of praise about what he is achieving at school.

“I feel so confident when he is at school. The small size of the school suits him. We're seeing so much progress in Gent. The school had an outing by minibus to a fruit farm recently and after picking the fruit he came back and made strawberry jam. He loved it!”

“I want so much for him, but he is making lots of progress and that makes me very happy.”

PROGRESS REPORT : OUTSTANDING

Headteacher Adrienne Wright writes: Gent is a delightful pupil & has made outstanding progress in terms of confidence, independence, ability to think flexibly and interact with others.

Gent	2010	2013
Communication & Interaction	Gent did not really interact with other people & usually played alongside other children	Gent initiates appropriate social interactions and engages in brief reciprocal interactions with adults and occasionally with classmates. With support, Gent participates in turn taking games. Gent has developed friendships and will show concern for his friends if they are upset or need assistance. He'll comfort them and offer practical support.
Flexibility	Gent was very anxious in many situations across school & in the wider community. He was very rigid in his thinking and couldn't cope with unexpected changes & transitions; these challenges often resulted in him becoming distressed, crying and shouting.	Gent demonstrates greater confidence and flexibility to cope calmly with new situations. With support he can engage appropriately without distress. He's now able to accept change of routines and plans which differ from his expectations. Gent manages transitions across the school independently with visual supports.
Independence Skills	Gent needed a lot of adult support and found it very challenging to work or complete tasks without reassurance, guidance and prompts.	Gent works independently at his work station for up to 15 minutes. He takes messages around the school and assists with clearing tables and sweeping floors at lunchtime. He will give reassurance and support to other pupils less independent than him.