



Naghm and Mouhammad are now thriving at school and are excited about learning new things in the caring atmosphere of Rise Academy's Learning Sanctuary

Hussam and Ekhlas are living in Hull with their children, Nagham, aged 12, and Mouhammad, aged 15. After the family arrived in England from Syria, Nagham and Mouhammad started attending the Learning Sanctuary in Lambert Street, Rise Academy's unique provision for newly arrived, asylum-seeking children. This is being made available to the most disadvantaged group of children, aged between four and 15, who are living in temporary accommodation in Hull, waiting for a decision on whether they can stay in the UK, or not.



Enjoying school life

Hussam and Ekhlas are very grateful that Nagham and Mouhammad have settled in so well at Rise Academy's Learning Sanctuary and are enjoying learning to speak a new language. They are also very interested in finding out about the heritage and history of the local area where they now find themselves living. Hussam says: "The Learning Sanctuary is a place where they can both feel safe and comfortable and we know that they are happier when they are at school than they are at the hotel where we are currently staying."

Kind teaching staff

"Nagham and Mouhammad are gradually becoming more confident and have enjoyed making new friends at school. We are very happy with all the support our children are receiving and we think all the staff are very kind. The teachers are very experienced and know how to deal with children who have only recently arrived in the country and they have given Nagham and Mouhammad a lot of support and have encouraged them both to learn English," he says.

Opportunities after school

"The children are both very happy now that they have settled in at the Learning Sanctuary. They are enjoying learning and are delighted with all the events and visits they are being given the chance to take part in after school, which is helping them to adapt to their new environment," Hussam says.

Dedicated support

The family are very pleased with the extra support Mouhammad is receiving from the staff. Hussam says: "Mouhammad has a special teacher assisting him because he needs a lot more help with his learning than Nagham. They have both found all the teachers are very good and proficient at what they do. It has helped them to feel more confident at school because the staff are always very friendly and helpful to them. Nagham is doing very well with her education and is enjoying learning the English language. She is always very happy to talk in English to her mother at home."

Excited about learning

He says both children have shown a lot of enthusiasm about all the new knowledge they are getting and about learning to speak English.

"They are enjoying learning about a new culture and being in a new environment and they talk about it to us a lot. It is all very exciting for them right now."

Trip to theatre

"Nagham and Mouhammad were thrilled to be taken to see a performance at a theatre recently and they came home very excited and told us all about what they had seen and experienced. We are very pleased with what the Learning Sanctuary are providing for our children and very grateful to all the kind staff who are helping them there."

Children say

Nagham and Mouhammad say:

"We are enjoying learning a new language and being taught about another culture and about the area where we are now living."



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