



# Rhys has had his life turned round thanks to the caring staff at Rise Academy

Victoria and Dave live in Hull with their sons, Rhys aged 15, Jack, aged 14, and Archie, aged six.

## Good relationships

Victoria and Dave can't quite believe how much happier their family life is now Rhys is doing well in his third year at Rise Academy. Victoria says: "Rhys did not get on well at any of his mainstream schools because he had difficulty building good relationships with his teachers. But after he started at Rise, we saw an improvement straight away. The staff worked hard to achieve good relationships with Rhys and learn how to help him feel calm and settled. He now talks about his teachers and what he has been doing at school happily when he comes home."





## Improved behaviour

Victoria remembers the family were close to breaking point before Rhys moved to Rise. "When he was in mainstream it was thought he might have autism or ADHD and we were passed back and forth but never given a definitive diagnosis. It was putting a huge strain on family life. We were offered another school that we thought was unsuitable, so we started to look at schools ourselves. We chose Rise thinking it might be better for him and as soon as he started his behaviour began to improve," she says.

## Academic success

Rhys is now in Year 11 and will take his GCSEs next year. "He is doing well with Maths and enjoys learning about Mechanics and would like to study it at college, or do an apprenticeship. His English is improving because it has finally been picked up that he is dyslexic. This was never investigated properly at his mainstream schools. He is also studying for his Science GCSE and doing a Sports Diploma," Victoria says.

## Comfortable surroundings

"When he started at Rise, the first change we saw was how he behaved when he went to school each morning and what he was like when he came back. We still sometimes got the odd kick off, but overall, he was much better. He moved up to the Rise Main Site when he went into Year 10. It is very civilised with comfort areas for the pupils. Rhys benefits from being in a small class of eight and is not under any pressure. The staff know how to address situations and things are a lot calmer. If something happens at school it gets sorted out at school," she says.

## Skills for life

"The staff have taught Rhys life skills and he is able to go to and from school by bus on his own. This is helpful as we have two younger sons to look after as well. Rhys is now much calmer at home. Even if things do not always go well at school, he gets over it and will give the staff a hug the next day. This is down to the high quality of the teaching staff. All the children's different needs are dealt with expertly. It is very helpful for parents to know they can contact the staff if there is ever any problem. If I know Rhys has been having a bad day at home, I let the teachers know, and they will text me if he has had a bad day at school so I can talk to him about it," Victoria says.

## Bright future

"I always recommend Rise to other families because I know it is a school that can meet every child's needs. We were close to breaking point three years ago, but life is much better for us now. Rise have given Rhys a future to look forward to. He knows what he wants to do with his life now and there are people helping him to achieve it every day."

## Children say

Rhys says: "I enjoy doing mechanics at school every week."



Rise Academy  
Fountain Road  
Hull, HU2 0LH

Tel: 01482 226166

Email: [admin@riseacademyhull.co.uk](mailto:admin@riseacademyhull.co.uk)

Web: [www.riseacademyhull.co.uk](http://www.riseacademyhull.co.uk)