

#TestimonialTuesday

#MoliantMawrth

This week's testimonials comes from the parents of a past pupil, who led us a few years ago.

When Harvey was born, I hadn't given a lot of thought on school, just assumed he would go to the local school with his sister who was 11 months older, it was lovely as they both would of been in the same school year group.



Then the unthinkable happened Harvey was injured and he was left with serious disabilities due to a head trauma which then changed his life forever. Fast forward all the heartbreak and trauma, Harvey joined a nursery for two hours per day with support and professionals pushed us towards main steam school. I no longer wanted Harvey and his sister in the same class as it wouldn't be fair for her to be impacted at school as well as home life.

I decided to go to ysgol heol Goffa with support, we met the headteacher at the time we were given a tour it was lovely seeing the children in class, it was an older building compared to my daughters brand new school. While looking around school and getting a feel of the place I seen old photographs on the wall of ex pupils, I knew one of the young lads Kevin, he lived a full life with support which gave me the last push I needed to do what's best for Harvey. As two children in different schools is not the easy option for inset days, shows, sports days etc..

so a few days after Harvey's 3rd birthday he joined ysgol heol Goffa.. I really can't ever explain how difficult it was to learn to trust in the early years. Harvey stayed in the nursery for many years with Mrs Davies, this was a huge help for me, but also Harvey loved school and made strong bonds with staff and also he had a nice group of friends that spent many years in and out of classes together growing up. This is so lovely as even now it's a friendship group like no other, but strong and honest..



Heol Goffa was a lot smaller years ago, and felt like a gaint family it's grown and grown but everyone is still as friendly.

Harvey is very sociable and we embraced school life, joined in on nights out and all adventures, this not only helped Harvey but also his sister who was able to meet other

siblings and families. We had always felt included and we have met many friends that we would meet up outside of school hours, party's etc this is so important as I feel having a child with any extra needs can make you feel isolated from the outside world. School helped Harvey grow with confidence he tried all tasks and activities from trips to gymnastics at Cardiff.



He always kept staff on their toes and could/can be difficult on times from shouting in assembly, running off, or at dinner times, when he wouldn't eat his meal till he had seen what was on offer from the kitchen, he loved nothing more than charming the staff. Younger years he would often play up in class but it was to show off or charm the staff. Harvey spent 16 years at Ysgol Heol Goffa, not only was it his safe place but it became mine, I always knew he was safe, looked after and most importantly happy. The school and the transition days to college they hold, really prepared him for life beyond school, he was very

brave and really ready for the next chapter, I weren't and struggled loads. I would have loved him to stay at school forever.

I am very grateful he joined Heol Goffa and I made the right decision all those years ago. The staff are amazing and always do more than they should for parents as well as the children.. I am thankful to all staff and the outer community groups for supporting and encouraging Harvey with many tasks. We still fully support school now years on from when he left, and attend fates or open days, He loves to visit now and acts like a celebrity running around with his own signs, noises or catch phrases for the staff like "monsters inc Hannah "

