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Sent: 20 March 2010 09:51
To: denisebyrne@english11and13plus.net
Cc: Mubina Bharadia
Subject: Denise Byrne

Dear Denise

It is with a deep sense of joy that Mubina and I inform you that Maahir has been offered a place in the old grammar form at City of London Boys School (COLB) following the entrance examinations and interview in January.

When we enrolled him with you to tutor him in English only 3 months prior, Maahir had been struggling on his grammar, comprehension and especially writing skills and we were getting very anxious that his foundations were not properly being anchored at school. In writing a story piece at school, he would get easily frustrated and distracted and the result would be a two line scribble - the lament from his teacher was that he was capable of achieving more and that was that.

We were desperate to find someone who would fire his imagination up and tap his latent potential and bring out the best in him in his English. Our aim when we enrolled him with you was to get him ready for the competitive 11+ entrance exams a year later with the imminent 10+ at COLB a mere fancy flight on hope and a prayer given the high bar that he was expected to cross in the exams. We owe it to you that in such a short period of time, you really "shook" Maahir up, taught him the relevant techniques and did his confidence no end of good. His interest in English improved with a marked transformation over a 3 month period and we could sense the difference as the practice in comprehension and writing were gradually working their magic.

By early January I thought Maahir had a fighting chance even though Mubina was urging me to be more realistic given such a short period that you had tutored him. And he did it against what had seemed insurmountable odds!

We are immensely thankful to you for your work with Maahir on his English; he has built a rapport with you and we would like him to continue with you to get him prepared for the 11+ at Westminster School and other eminent grammar schools.

kind regards

Mohamed