

# In conversation with...

## a student speaking Spanish

*In this series, we hear more from a student who has arrived at Car Boys from overseas.*

### **September 2017 – Translated from Spanish**

On the first day, I was first given a bilingual dictionary, the Spanish version of "Of Mice and Men" to read, English and Maths worksheets to do in class in case there was no work for me to do.

I was then introduced to Kashif who took me around all the lessons. We had drama and watched a video we had to enact. It was very funny. We then went to Geography where students had to do a type of exam but I continued with my worksheets.

After lunch, I met up with Mrs De Mori who showed me the school which was entertaining. I met Mr Barber, the Principal, who showed me how to use Google Translate. It is such a big school. I feel comfortable apart from my lack of English but I will learn.

### **November 2018 in his own words**

On the first week, it was so much easier to speak to my class friends because my pronunciation had changed. I understood them and they understood me. It was so great to see everyone after a long summer in Spain! I knew my way around the school and got used to my new timetable and what I had to do on a day to day basis.

Although you become more familiar with the language after one year, you constantly add new vocabulary from the subjects you have chosen as options which is still difficult but it is a great way to integrate and have a normal life. The more you go around, the more you get used to favourite destinations and favourite subjects.

I am able to tell jokes such as what is the longest Spanish word...

antifragislisticexpediaciente.

I am still friends with Kashif I see every day although we are in different classes. Like his brother, he is an artist unlike me. We went on a trip to visit a university to consider our future studies there. It was such good fun!

Last year, I met a swan called Cyril. He looked like our school logo. He used to spend time in lessons with us and was a talking point. I have often wondered what had happened to him. I was told he had migrated to other countries for the winter.

One becomes a lot more used to traditions of the country and the way things are done. For example, carnival in London is in August not February like in Spain, with the Notting Hill Carnival. It is a big event with so many people! Will speak and write more next year!?