

➔ Family

FAMILY

Lucas and
Danielle
at work



family
tested!

Elliott's Corner

The Family: The Colletts (two kids, aged 3 years and 6 months)

The Verdict: "A truly wonderful center"

Perfect For: Families with children with developmental delays or learning difficulties

▶ Our family has been going to Elliott's Corner (6461-6283) for a year now, and the progress our son has made in that time has been significant.

We started going after my wife Chenmin and I noticed problems in Lucas' communication and pronunciation. He had trouble with words containing vowels sandwiched between two consonants, such as "cat" or "dog." Instead, he'd say "ca" or "do."

We began searching for centers or courses offering speech therapy and that's when we stumbled across the website for Olivia's Place in Shanghai. Naturally, we were very pleased when we saw the link to Elliott's Corner here in Beijing.

At first Lucas went to Elliott's Corner once a week, but due to the nature of his impediment, he now goes three times a week for 30 minutes each time. He works with both Amy and Danielle, a speech therapist and child psychologist, who lead exercises

that encourage him to repeat and pronounce words. The sessions are real confidence boosters for him; whereas a year ago he used to avoid the issue, he's now very responsive. It's wonderful to see him really communicating and making an effort. Lucas has always been a bubbly child—even when he was aware that he had a problem, he was always smiling. So to see him almost able to express himself properly is really exciting.

Though my wife and I may have been able to draw Lucas out eventually, the process would have been so much harder. As his parents, we were almost too close to the issue. We would read to him and encourage him to speak, but it just wasn't working. We really couldn't have gone this far in this amount of time without the help of the people at Elliott's Corner—they are truly focused on helping the children and families, and they are very approachable.