

The Kirkbank family have been living in York for ten years. They moved here because of their jobs and they don't live close to anyone else in their extended family. Mr and Mrs Kirkbank both work full-time. They have two children, who both go to school.

Meg, the youngest, is nine, and she goes to primary school. It starts at 8.45 am, but Mr and Mrs Kirkbank both have to leave earlier than that to get to work on time. So they take Meg to breakfast club on their way to work every day. This is a special club at the school which opens early at 8.00 am. After school, she often does an activity at school such as netball, art or computer club.

Tom, their older son, is 12. He goes to secondary school. He catches the bus from the end of the road at 7.45 am every morning. He often does a club after school too. This term, he has been doing athletics, football and cricket. He loves sport!

'It's sometimes difficult,' says Mrs Kirkbank. 'When the children were younger, I wanted to live nearer my parents, because I think that would have helped me a lot. I was still working part-time, so the children went to nursery school. I've been working full-time for three years and it's a long day for them now. I don't get home until 5 or 6 o'clock in the evening and my husband is often later. We have to make tea and help the children with their homework. Then we have to find time to clean the house and wash the clothes. It's quite tiring!'

'I do look forward to going away on holiday,' says Mr Kirkbank. 'But the school holidays are difficult when we're both working. Luckily the children have lots of friends near them, so they can all meet up and go to the park or do some sport.'

'We're lucky to live in such a beautiful city, though,' says Mrs Kirkbank. 'If we have some free time at the weekend, we can go into the city centre and visit a museum, the cathedral, the park or the shops and restaurants. It's fun for all of us and it's great to spend time together as a family.'

Reading for specific information

Read the activities and number them in order.

Mrs Kirkbank gets home from work.

Meg goes to breakfast club.

Tom gets the bus.

Mr Kirkbank gets home from work.

Mr and Mrs Kirkbank go to work