

## **Coram Adoption: Film Transcript**

Carrie Burnell: All children deserve the best start in life and Coram runs one of the UK's most successful adoption services, helping to place vulnerable children who are in care and cannot live with their birth parents with stable, secure and loving adoptive families. Families who can give them the life long security that every child needs.

With Coram's support, Suzanne and Ryan adopted Anthony and Marley who now live with them and their two daughters, Jessica and Amy.

Anthony: This is my sister Jessica, and this is my mum Suzanne, and this is my dad Ryan and this is my other sister, Amy and that is my brother, Marley, and there is me.

Ryan: My first meeting with Anthony was long anticipated. We were given instructions and guidelines by the Coram social worker and, well the main thing, don't approach, and don't make the first move.

As we got to his foster house, we opened the door to the living room. He stopped playing, looked up at me and ran and jumped into my arms. I was a bit taken aback, a bit stunned. I didn't know what to do; I stood there frozen for a minute, thinking, what do I do, I can't speak or say anything. But these big eyes and big smile greeted me and that broke the ice in an amazing way and that was really me being... everyone was in tears.

Amy: There are very much like my brothers, like it feels like they are my brothers. And they don't feel like different from my birth sister, Jess, like, they feel as much part of the family as Jess would or I would.

Suzanne: They are fabulous boys, they are really fabulous boys. I think there is something really exciting about having children who are not genetically yours because they have things in them that birth children don't have.

Anthony is really musical, where neither Ryan nor I are musical. Also, for Marley he is so athletic, he is the fastest child. He is like poetry in motion to watch him run. It is just fabulous to see that in a child and you know we didn't give him that.

Ryan: Our first visit to Coram, they were so friendly and welcoming.

Suzanne: I think what we felt was that the social worker was on our side.

Anthony: The good thing with my family is that they are very forgiving and that they are a very funny family.

Suzanne: I think the main thing that you need to bring up children is an open mind, a willingness to learn and an ability to love the children that you care for.