

Activity 3 Meet Sam

Sam is 17 years old, thinking about moving on and leaving school and feels worried. He looked around lots of different colleges but none of them felt right. Some of them were very big and he was worried about bullying.

Sam is deaf. He likes working with Joshua his TA because he can sign to him. They have worked together for 3 years, so they know each other really well.

He sometimes gets worried when he goes somewhere new, but always feels relaxed when Joshua is there, because he knows that if he has a problem, or if he needs help with something private, he can go to Joshua who will understand.

It took a long time, and a little bit of frustration to build this relationship, but now they know each other well Sam is happy. In fact Joshua is concerned about how dependent on him Sam has become and is looking at ways of introducing new TAs or perhaps enabling Sam to mix with more people without him.

One day Sam hopes to get married and would like to meet new people.

His favourite lesson is PE and he likes using the local gym. He wants to keep fit and get strong.

Sam contracted meningitis when he was a few weeks old. He has moderate learning difficulties and some physical difficulties mainly affecting his legs.

Sam has physiotherapy, hydrotherapy, speech therapy, all closely linked with his school so the therapists know him really well. He has life skills training to do things such as using the washing machine and he also has cookery sessions with a real chef which he really enjoys and thinks he might like to pursue as a career.

Sam is about to have his transfer review. The assessment advice and information for his statement is out of date, so he will need new assessment information and advice for his EHC needs assessment and plan.