

10) Case Study: Aspirations and outcomes

This case study helps to illustrate how an EHCP can assist with addressing the wider issues associated with expectations of YP as they progress in education e.g. travelling independently and socialising.

Freddy is a bright 16 year old boy with speech and language difficulties and associated coordination difficulties. Sometimes this can make his speech unclear to others and also impacts on his spatial awareness.

Freddy's Story

Freddy was keen to communicate what he wanted for the future and make his voice heard within the EHCP. Freddy's mum wants him to become more independent and socialise more with others his own age. Both Freddy and his mum knew that he would need support to achieve these aspirations and were able to describe the type of support needed to make them become a reality. Freddy thought it might be a good idea if he had a buddy or access to Travel Training to help support him when travelling on public transport on his own, as this was a key aspiration for him in becoming more independent from his parents. This would also help Freddy to access social activities on his own, by increasing his independence and helping to decrease his anxiety in meeting new people. His ultimate aspiration is to go to university.

Both Freddy and his mum felt that in order to achieve all the aspirations named in the EHC plan, he would need opportunities to mix with others his own age and become confident in going to unfamiliar places on his own. They thought that practicing his social skills with a small group of peers at school, and later college, would greatly help to expand his social life and confidence. Freddy's mum also thought that access to Speech and Language therapy would help others to understand what Freddy is saying which would help in making new friends and widening his social circle. Occupational Therapy would also assist in addressing Freddy's coordination difficulties which limit his participation in social activities with others e.g. team games.

As Freddy's IS, I supported both him and his mum in ensuring that their views, wishes and aspirations were present within the EHCP. They were also able to describe Freddy's needs and how they needed to be supported throughout the EHCP in order for him to achieve his outcomes and aspirations for the future. I was able to liaise with the LA in securing the best outcome for Freddy, which resulted in an EHCP being produced that both Freddy and his mum felt met his needs and aspirations for the future.

Freddy is now looking forward to going to sixth-form college, the first step towards achieving his aspiration of going to university.