

## 4) Case Study: Empowering

How IS helped a parent navigate the SEN system going from zero support, to an EHCP with 1 to 1 support, among other things.

Ty has a rare degenerative eye condition which presents as having blurred vision. His academic achievement is slightly below his peers but school are unconcerned.

### Ty's Story

Ty is 14 in mainstream school. Throughout Ty's education so far, he has received no additional support. Ty's mum felt he was capable of reaching higher academic levels and they were both getting increasingly anxious about school, having to adapt numerous strategies in order to just about cope.

Ty's mum contacted the IS Service to find out about EHC plans and what they were. We helped her understand the SEN support structure of school and in doing so felt there was a need for more specialist assessment and intervention. Ty's mum referred him to the VI team who were able to make numerous recommendations to school as well as direct work with Ty. The VI team advised mum to put in a request for an EHCP assessment and identified his need for 1:1 support in the classroom.

Ty had made his own adaptations to cope by holding his paperwork close to his face, tried wherever possible to take his work home to complete with his tutor that his parents paid for, his friends took him around school as he was unable to negotiate corridors and his sister helped to carry his equipment/take him into and out of school and supported with ensuring his uniform was correct e.g. buttons fastened, tie straight etc. He always took packed lunch to avoid the dinner hall and never joined any out of school activities/clubs.

Ty's mum requested the help of IS throughout the process, including support at the meetings with the SEN Officer to collate the information for the assessment, and to advise on the draft plan including how to challenge its content.

The outcome included the LA issuing an EHCP which included additional support around life skills, specialist support from VI, computer packages, touch type training, all course text to be enlarged, access to out of school provision, 1:1 support in class.

Ty's mum was pleased with the outcome for her son and feels he now has the chance to achieve the levels that she knew he was capable of if provided with the correct support and resources. She also took positive action in feeding back to the IS service how useful the support had been in helping them navigate through the complexities of the system.