

Oliver's story...

Name: Oliver*

Age: 15

Service: Psychological and Therapeutic

Background

Oliver was referred to our service following a number of incidents involving inappropriate sexual behaviour at his current educational placement. Our team were asked to undertake an assessment of his behaviour and recommend a suitable package of intervention to address the concerns. We were advised that Robert had a diagnosis of ASD.

What we did

Oliver's case was assigned to a single member of our team to ensure continuity throughout his initial assessment and subsequent period of intervention. As requested by the local authority, Oliver was first assessed in order to determine his baseline understanding surrounding the concerns that had been raised, whilst also informing our approach to the educational intervention we were asked to deliver as a result. Our assessment, along with the difficulties Oliver experienced in communication as a result of his ASD diagnosis, highlighted the need for an adapted programme of teaching that could be delivered using appropriate methods of communication. Over a period of eight weeks, our service delivered an interactive and visual programme that sought to build upon Oliver's understanding of boundaries, consent and victim empathy, along with developing his ability to identify situations that may lead to sexually harmful behaviour. Throughout the intervention, our team worked closely with the local authority and his carers and completed a report on our findings at its conclusion.

*Names have been changed to protect the identity of the child and their family. Stock Image.

Outcomes

As a result of our previous experience in supporting young people like Oliver, our service was able to undertake a complete assessment of his baseline understanding and learning needs. Oliver was assigned to a single caseworker, with whom he developed a positive working relationship with. Our service was able to adapt our visual referencing tool to enable positive learning engagement with Oliver at an appropriate level that allowed him to benefit from the teaching and guidance he was given. As the intervention progressed, it was clear that Oliver's awareness of his past behaviour was developing and he was also beginning to show an increased understanding surrounding boundaries, consent and victim empathy. Our initial assessment and the intervention that was delivered allowed us to identify and track Oliver's progress throughout this period and subsequently, allowed us to report our complete findings to the local authority. Oliver was discharged from our service shortly after and continues to access full time education.



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