

# Robert's story...

**Name:** Robert\*

**Age:** 15 (at time of placement)

**Service:** Children's Residential

## Background

Robert was referred to us following the breakdown of his fostering placement. Due to his moderate learning difficulties, Robert was known to struggle and display negative behaviour during periods of change, whilst also developing relationships with others that were not of a positive influence. We were advised that Robert required an increased level of support and guidance.



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

## What we did

Robert moved into one of our children's homes following a successful matching process. Early on in his placement, Robert settled into his new home and formed positive relationships with his key worker and other staff teams. Input from our Multi-Disciplinary Team including Occupational Health, Education and Counselling identified his need for routine, consistency and an adapted educational approach. We worked with Robert to address his difficulties and maintain his placement at a local secondary school. The MDT approach to Roberts care allowed our team to establish a unique plan that ensured the best opportunity for him to develop and learn appropriate independent living skills including cooking, cleaning and personal hygiene routines through the use of simplified instructions and consistent evidence based educational approaches. Robert was later encouraged to follow his newly found interest in construction and successfully enrolled in college. Throughout this time, Robert's presenting difficulties including his struggle with social interaction were continually addressed at the point of need with MDT input, including a referral for an ASD assessment.

## Outcomes

Robert was provided with the support and consistency he needed in order to thrive and achieve. Our teams worked collaboratively to ensure Roberts educational placements were maintained, which resulted in him achieving a number of certificates. During his placement, our team were able to successfully identify the need for an ASD assessment. Robert was diagnosed with ASD shortly after and as a result, we were able to obtain and implement a package of care that was tailored to meet his ever changing needs as he developed. As a direct result of our MDT approach, Robert was able to benefit from appropriate teaching and skill development opportunities that ensured he left our care with the skills and knowledge he needed for his future. Robert is now living in semi-supported accommodation and continues to access further education. Although he has now left our care, he left our home as a more empowered young man - equipped with the skills he needed to continue his journey in life. Robert continues to visit the home most weeks for dinner.



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