

Children with Disabilities Team

**What our children and their families tell us we need to do
more of and what we have done!**

April 2023



Ensure we have a voice

- Improve our voice, hear our wishes and feelings, know and understand our day-to-day experiences.
- Access to advocacy via NYAS - we are passionate about encouraging parents to work with NYAS to ensure children's views are advocated.
- Use Mind of My Own Express and One App.
- We are using more creative ways to gather wishes and feelings including photos, social stories, picture exchange communication, signed supported English, Makaton and commissioned specialist signs when needed.
- Access to Young carers support for brothers and sisters. Alongside Parent Carers assessments.
- That our Independent Reviewing officer asks us what our wishes are and check everyone is doing their best for us.



That you know us well. When you can't help you help us to find someone who can

- Ensure that team culture promotes building good relationships with us , our families and our carers.
 - That we will where possible have the same social worker throughout our childhood.
 - When you cannot help us as we do not meet the criteria you will endeavor to provide advice, support and guidance to help to meet our needs.
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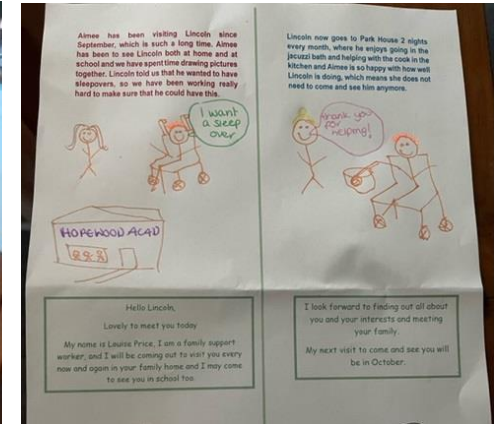
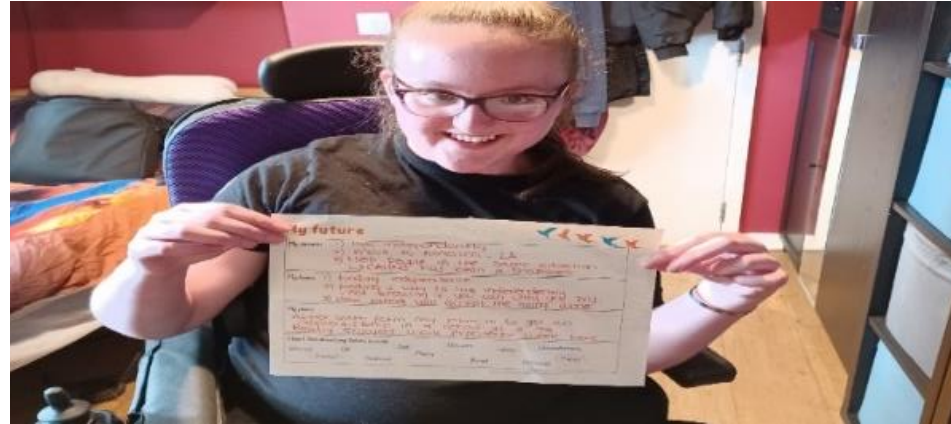




Ensure our needs are understood and regularly discussed by people who know us best

- We are visited regularly by our named social worker.
- Annual assessments focusing on what's working well for us and our families/carers, what we are worried about and what needs to happen to meet our needs.
- Ensuring we have a robust plan to meet our needs and/or keep us safe. That these are reviewed and updated regularly by us, our families and our carers.
- Our parents/carers have access to carer's assessments.
- When we are ready to think about preparing for adulthood, we work closely with the Navigation team, they are colleagues in adults' services who can work when is most appropriate to support with the transition to adulthood. We recognise for all young people the transition from children to adults' services is a worrying time, and we work hard to ensure this is done in a planned way.

Improving how we capturing young peoples voices with direct work and showing in pictures how we review outcomes with our children and young people



social Story Emma .docx • Last Modified: 17 October

Emma Robertson ER

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- A young person enjoying a commissioned care package 'surfing'
- A young person completing some PECS work on a choice board.
- Direct work around a young persons plans.
- Social Workers explaining to children what their monitor and Review package looks like.



We want to influence the help you give us

[Department for Education on Twitter: "Children's social workers provide essential support to our communities. Aimee told us about her role, and the life-changing help she gives to children and young people with disabilities in County Durham https://t.co/6sbjZT8fP5" / Twitter](https://t.co/6sbjZT8fP5)

Making our services be the best they can be for all the children and young people

Specialist community hubs (short breaks) and improving the offer for our families

We are currently going through the investing in children process and we achieved a gold

CICC development

Mind of my own feedback

Family Satisfaction Surveys





FEEDBACK FROM CHILDREN, YOUNG PEOPLE AND THEIR FAMILIES