



Jake's Story – a Transition to Adult Services

Jake lived with his parents and 2 younger siblings until aged 12. He was taken into care following concerns around emotional abuse from parents, their general lack of parental skills and concerns around Jake's sexually inappropriate behaviour. Jake was a complex young man who required structure and boundaries which were lacking in the family home. The Police were called to the family home on several occasions to deal with Jake's outbursts as parents admitted they were unable to manage his behaviour. Jake, who was on the autistic spectrum, attended a local special needs school. Jake was 15 when he was admitted to Amberleigh Care following increasing concerns from the local authority over his increasing sexualised behaviour and ongoing risks to younger children in his school and the community. Jake's key profile was as follows:

- Been in care from age of 12
- Had 4 foster placement breakdowns
- A victim of sexual abuse
- A perpetrator of sexual abuse
- Controlling and aggressive behaviour requiring regular physical intervention
- Diagnosed ASD
- Lack of empathy and ability to build relationships

Placement approach

During his 3 years at Amberleigh Care Jake received a holistic approach of Care, Therapy and Education. Staff were able to introduce firm and consistent boundaries and demonstrate positive role modelling which had clearly been absent in Jake's home life.

Risks were positively managed, and we provided a clear, structured and reliable living environment.

Jake developed many positive relationships whilst at Amberleigh and this enabled him to thrive and engage in our independence programme. Despite Jake's learning difficulty and ASD, he was able to gain confidence and improve in all aspects of his functioning.

Key Outcomes

- Stable placement 3 years
- No sexualised acting out behaviours
- Reduction in aggression (almost to nil)
- Engaged in full time education and achieved qualifications
- Transitioned to college full time and gained further qualifications
- Undertook work experience roles
- Achieved a part time job with excellent feedback
- Developed a range of independent living skills
- Planned transition to adult social care supported living
- Ongoing "keeping in touch" contact

Key elements

Long term therapeutic community placement, weekly therapy, ongoing assessment and management of risk, full time education, support with college transitions, group living experience to build social skills and functioning, independent living skills

"Jake is a pleasant and hardworking young man, I would have no hesitation in recommending him to future employers" Work experience placement 2017

