

Case Study



In this Case Study;

David*, a 7 year old boy with autism and severe challenging behaviour

David is unable to communicate verbally and requires support and encouragement to enable him to interact into his local community.

A detailed care assessment of David's individual needs was carried out by our domiciliary care consultant at his home with his mother present. This focused on integration into the local community, management of his challenging behaviour highlighting triggers and strategies for reducing his anxieties.

We provide David* with care and respite support for three hours in the evening on a Tuesday and Thursday and six hours on a Saturday.

David is totally dependent for all his personal care needs. He is unable to communicate verbally and requires support and encouragement to enable him to interact into his local community. David is cared for at home by his mother and two sisters and attends a local special needs school Monday to Friday. David's condition can cause a lot of emotional strain on his family especially his mother, balancing her time between David and his siblings.

Advantage Healthcare worked in partnership with the family and Social Services to ensure that an appropriate care package was set up that met David's needs and also maximised the support and respite for his family.

It was established that David responded better to male support workers so we identified a suitable individual that had the relevant skills, experience and had an awareness of the facilities available in the local community.

Advantage Healthcare organised for the support worker to attend two shadow shifts whilst David was in school and a supervised shift in the home environment, which allowed the support worker to gain invaluable knowledge of behaviour management and communication techniques.

David has developed an excellent therapeutic relationship with the support worker over the past 18 months and enjoys activities outside of the family home. David's mother said "I have seen an improvement in David's behaviour over the past year which I believe is because he is receiving one to one support from an experienced support worker who has encouraged David to take part in activities gaining more independence in tasks that he was unable to do before and improving his relationship with his sisters".

For the local Social Services, Advantage Healthcare has provided a cost-effective care package that has assisted in preventing a possible family breakdown and has supported David in integrating into his local community and building his independence.

**Names and photographs in this study have been changed due to data protection.*