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Alex's Journey

Following a normal and healthy birth, Alex developed pneumococcal meningitis at just 6 months old. His parents, Jane and Darrel said:

"Alex was on the High Dependency Unit for 3 days and at the time we didn't know if he would make it".

Months later, Alex started to have seizures and after further tests, doctors confirmed that he was deaf in one ear and that his right arm and leg were both weak.

Jane said "The doctors confirmed that Alex has Cerebral Palsy and although he has right sided brain damage, we still don't know how much brain damage he has.

"We noticed that he missed all of his milestones such as sitting up, crawling, walking etc but he finally learned to roll at 18 months. We had heard of Paces and the Conductive Education approach and wanted to find out if this would be good for Alex.

The Conductor told us what a child with Cerebral Palsy was like and it was like they were describing our son to a tee. We instantly knew that this was the place for Alex as they had the knowledge and expertise to support him"

Darrel said "We never knew if Alex would walk but thanks to the team at Paces, our son now walks aided with sticks which is just incredible! He actually challenges himself to do 1000 steps each day! We are so proud of him"

"Paces is a way of life and we got to know many of the other parents which was great because we could support one another. The staff also taught Alex toilet training, feeding and learning to dress himself and how to be more independent"

Alex, now age 25, left Paces School at age 19 and is now attending our Adult Day Service. He's a huge fan of Sheffield Steelers, attends his local Scouts group and loves DJ'ing!

Alex continues to benefit from Conductive programmes and continues to challenge himself physically. He is also really benefiting from our newly fitted life skills kitchen where he regularly helps prepare and cook meals for himself and his peers. He will even help with the washing up.

Alex reflects on the positive impact Conductive Education has had on his life and the friendships he has built. He has also supported Paces with fundraising efforts for which we are very grateful.