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Owen's Journey

Owen is a 13-year-old student at Paces School who brings energy, humour and determination to everything he does. Like many teenagers his age, Owen loves sport, food and spending time with his friends – and his enthusiasm for life is infectious.

Owen has four limb Cerebral Palsy, which means he faces significant physical challenges in his everyday life. At Paces School he benefits from a highly personalised programme that combines education with Conductive Education to support his physical development, independence and confidence.

Over time, Owen has made excellent progress both academically and personally. His learning programme is designed to support his individual needs while encouraging him to take increasing control over his own learning and daily routines. Staff work closely with Owen to help him develop important life skills that will support his preparation for adulthood, including communication, independence and decision-making.

One of Owen's greatest strengths is his positive outlook. He has a huge love for life and enjoys being involved in activities that connect him with the wider community. Sport is a big part of this. Owen has become a familiar and well-known face within local boxing and football communities, where his passion and personality have made him popular with coaches, athletes and supporters

alike.

Owen also enjoys sharing his experiences online. He runs his own YouTube channel, where he talks about his interests, activities and life as a young person with Cerebral Palsy.

At Paces, Owen is known for his sense of humour, determination and willingness to try new things. With the support of the school's specialist approach and the encouragement of staff and friends, he continues to develop the skills and confidence that will help him lead a full and active life.

Owen's mum Gillian said:

"Before Owen came to Paces Outreach, he was very limited with his movements. He couldn't sit up or get around and struggled to move himself in his wheelchair. Within weeks of taking part in the Conductive Education sessions he could eventually stand up! He could also get himself off the settee and pull himself into the kitchen which is just fantastic. Shortly after starting in the Reception class at Paces, Owen was also using the toilet successfully. It's made such a huge difference to the lives of our families now that Owen can move around independently. We see him getting stronger and stronger each day which makes us so proud. We can't thank Paces enough!"

Owen's journey is a powerful example of what can be achieved when young people are supported to believe in themselves, pursue their passions and build independence for the future.