

TRANSITION:

*a story
from real life*



reallifeoptions



...Meet Philip

What people appreciate about Philip:

- wicked sense of humour
- knowledgeable about TV and weather
- witty, charmer, very caring, trendy
- **OUTSPOKEN!**





- Philip moved to Fullerton House school in Doncaster when he was 10 – until then he'd lived with his parents.
- Philip attended various Schools when living in Durham, but due to behaviours he was presenting it was decided that Philip would be placed in specialist residential school.
- At the time there was nowhere in Durham that could meet his needs.





- Philip comes from a very close family.
- Philip thrived when he went to Fullerton - they responded excellently to his emotional, physical and educational needs
- He visited his parents every other weekend with staff , his parents would visit on alternate weekends
- Staff at Fullerton became part of the family.





- At 18 Philip was expected to leave school and his residential placement.
- Transition was planned to Hesley Village (an adult version of his school) - a self contained village with shops, cafes with people with learning disabilities living and working there.
- Unfortunately, there were issues with funding - other avenues had to be explored





- Philips parents fought the council heavily as they felt pressure to move quickly on finding a place for Philip. They wanted a transition that was slow, planned and right for Philip
- Staff at Fullerton still talk about how well the transition went for Philip
- ...and how great he is





- In 2006 the Durham Council 'Coming Home Team' were setting up a new Project to bring people back into County who had been moved away from home
- Philip was identified as being an ideal candidate
- Flat 4 was identified for Philip.
- Parents were involved throughout, ensuring a slow, phased person centred phased transition



We provide support for people
with learning disabilities



- Philip moved into Fairview beginning of September. Fairview staff spent 3 months at Fullerton prior to the move – working alongside Philip and his staff team
- Philip was upset in the first few days but coped as he had staff working with him who knew him
- Philips parents were able to visit him and take him home regularly





We provide support for people with learning disabilities



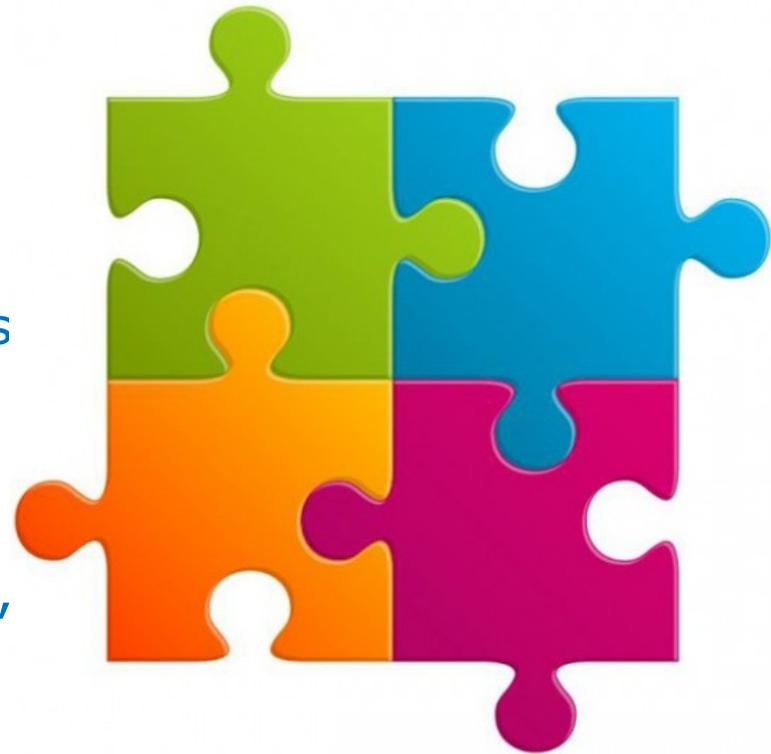
- Shortly after RLO won the Fairview contract, a team of staff was recruited to work with Philip. Philip's parents were involved throughout this process.
- Staff spent over 4 weeks doubling up with Philip and really getting to know him.
- Slowly over time agency were moved out as RLO staff became established.
- Staff maintained contact with Fullerton on Philip's behalf - supporting Philip to visit 3 times a year and to stay in touch with friends there.



We provide support for people with learning disabilities



- Almost 10 years on Philip continues to visit Fullerton House school staff - they always comment on how much progress he's made
- When we recruit for Philip, he is always involved in the interview
- When new staff are identified, it's a slow progress of getting to know Philip, until he feels comfortable.



We provide support for people with learning disabilities



- Transition is often difficult for people with learning disability and people who have a diagnosis of ASD
- At start of transition the person should have people around them who they know – ideally retaining the same support
- In a new environment familiar faces are important - the person copes much better
- The key to transition is in having people around the person who know them

