

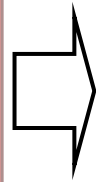
My Annual Review Story - Evie

About Evie

Evie is a Year 7 student at a Southend High School.

She has a visual impairment and is becoming a competent Braille user.

Evie has taken part in Annual Reviews since she was in Year 5.



What Evie likes about her Annual Review

Evie has made fantastic progress in building on her independence and feels that the targets set at her Annual Review are imperative to her progress. Without these Evie thinks she would not have achieved at the rate she currently is. Since beginning the review process Evie feels that her views and opinions are listened to by all involved in her journey; mainly because everyone included has been consistent right from the start of her EHCP Journey.



What other support has helped Evie

One of Evie's previous goals was to interact more with her peers and build on relationships; something she has excelled at since the target was suggested in a previous Annual Review.

Evie has been using an AI Robot that allowed her to be 'present' in class (speak, listen and communicate) whilst she was shielding at home. The loan of the AI Robot enabled her to hit her target even when she could not physically attend school.

One of Evie's goals this year is to improve her white cane use and her Braille abilities. Evie reports the support from the Visual Impairment outreach team has been a fantastic resource for her and her family since beginning this part of her learning – even working out walking routes to and from school so she can practice and feel more independent.

Evie placed a lot of importance on her great relationships she has with the trusted adults in her life and how she values these relationships enormously. Evie shared that they often call each other by nicknames and share jokes which she really enjoys, she also shared that her School SENCO does a weekly wellbeing 'check in'. Evie believes this shows that the adults are genuinely interested in building long term relationships and getting to know her as an individual.

What Evie would tell her peers who are new to the AR Process

"It will be daunting at first and might feel uncomfortable whilst everyone is still trying to figure things out, but it will be so worth it in the long run once your support is in place you will be fine".

To begin with, Evie was a little sceptical about annual reviews as she did not understand the process or the paperwork.

Evie mentioned that an idea to help bridge this gap could be for the School SENCO to be on hand to provide a quick one – to – one update at break or lunch to keep you abreast of what is going on, she feels that this would help ease any nervous or worried feelings.



Next Steps

Evie has agreed to work with the Local Offer Team with a range of projects.

The first of these will be to join other young people to design and co-produce a Guide to Annual Reviews for Young People with SEND in Southend. She will also help to produce a Braille version of the Guide.



I know there's at least 4 different people I could go and speak to if I needed help, or advice or didn't like something that was going on. They would listen to me properly and make me feel heard and feedback what I have said to anyone else who needs to be involved'