

# Futures

My son has a genetic disorder.

Throughout school and college he needed additional support. When he left college last year, I was overwhelmed with worrying thoughts of how I was going to be able to support him through this transition period.

I had dealt with various agencies over the years and none really catered for people like my son. There is support for the severely disabled and rightly so, but very little for the more able, but very vulnerable young adults. Too able for specialist help and too vulnerable to be left to fend for themselves.

I contacted Sunnybank in desperation really. I needed support to help him once he left education. Within five minutes of meeting Claire (Futures Manager), I relaxed. My son felt comfortable in her company, and what Sunnybank could offer him sounded too good to be true.

My son now goes to coffee morning every week where he gets to spend time with other young adults with additional needs. He has grown in confidence in a way I didn't think possible and he now feels able to support some of the other young adults. Issues I am concerned about like online safety and disability hate crime are being addressed and valuable advice given.

I, like most parents with a child with a learning disability, watch as they struggle through life. Bright enough to know they are different, and desperate to fit in.

“ The Futures programme has given my son a reason to get out of bed in the morning ”

Parent of Futures member