

# Dreams can come true

Rachel Turner

24<sup>th</sup> September 2019

Learning Disabilities and Autism: Promoting Positive Outcomes

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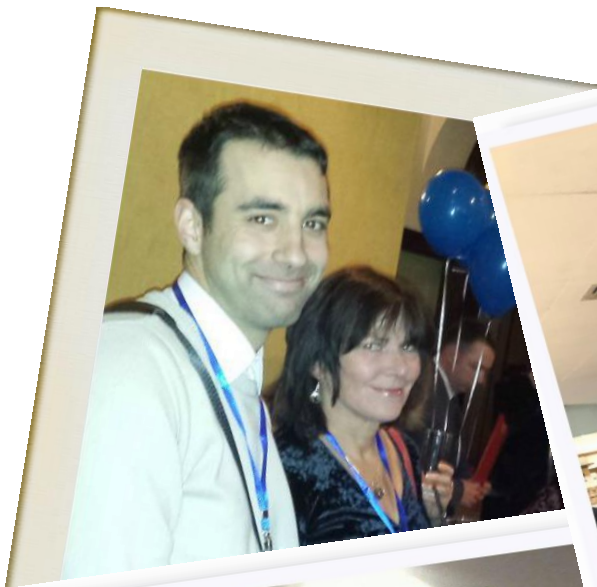
# Rachel Turner

- ▶ Ambassador
- ▶ Citizen
- ▶ Self advocate
- ▶ Disney Fan
- ▶ Man U supporter



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# Dreams can come true

A happy ever after story by Rachel  
Turner.



All our **DREAMS**  
can come true  
if we have the courage  
to pursue them.”


— WALT DISNEY



- ▶ My story begins with me being brought up in care.

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- 
- ▶ People are paid to help me and when people are paid to help you, you get scared the help will be taken away.

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- ▶ I haven't learnt about a lot of the stuff that you need to know.

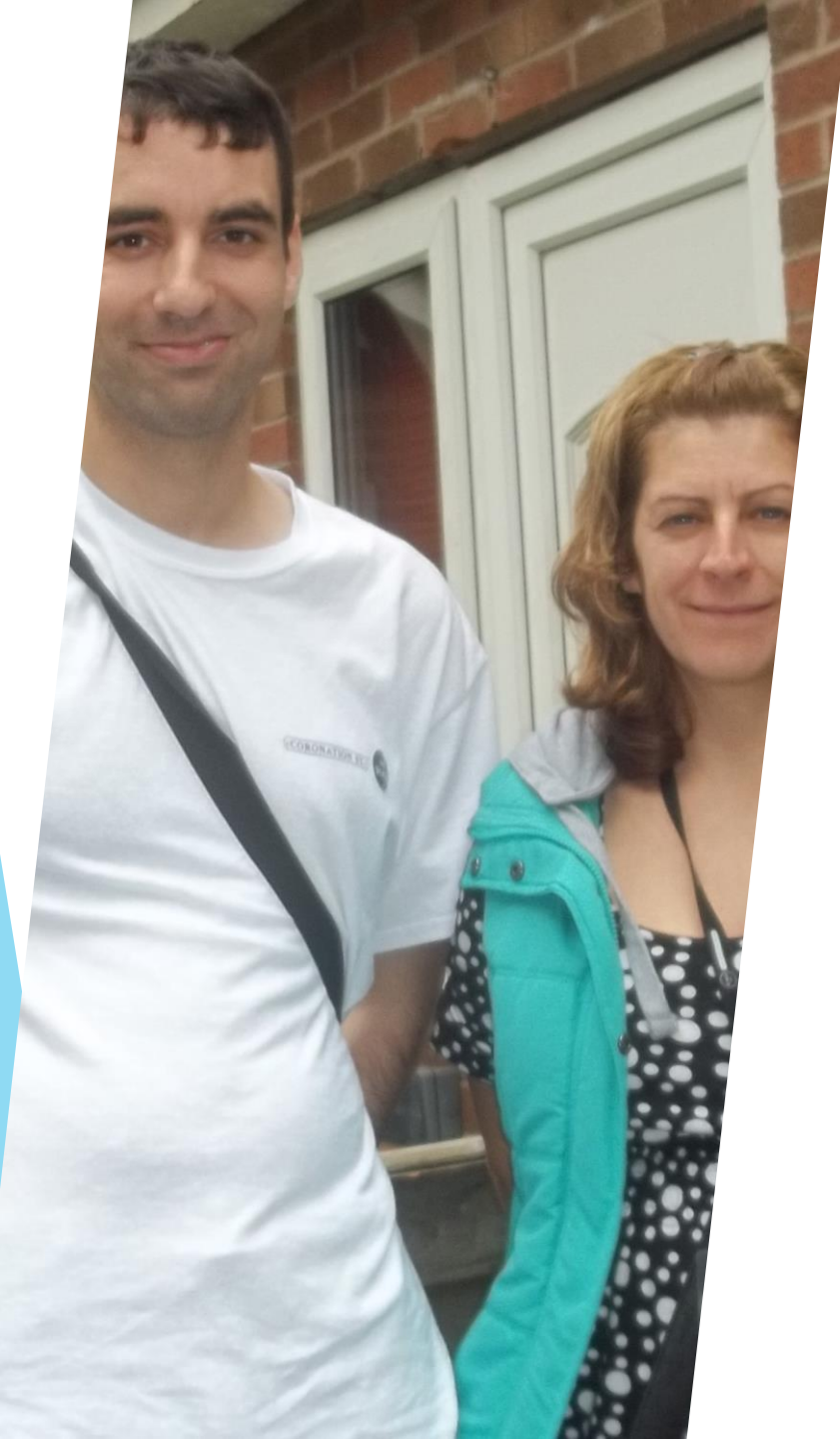
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# Shared Lives

- ▶ The best support I have ever had has been with Shared Lives and I want to be supported by Shared Lives again.

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# Shared Lives

- ▶ I moved in with Richard, a Shared Lives carer, in September 2011.
- ▶ It was the week Manchester United beat Leeds United.
- ▶ The score was 3-0 to Manchester United.

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# Shared Lives

- ▶ I liked learning about life from Sharon and Sylvana – they knew me, they made learning interesting, I trusted them, they helped me solve problems, just like I was part of their family.

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# Ambassador Rachel

- ▶ I started working for Shared Lives Plus.
- ▶ I was proud of myself.



## Moving on

- ▶ I have learnt that I can do what I do because I am supported, not because support is taken away.

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## Who cares?

- ▶ I have learnt I am not completely on my own and that I do have people in my life who care about me.

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# Who cares?



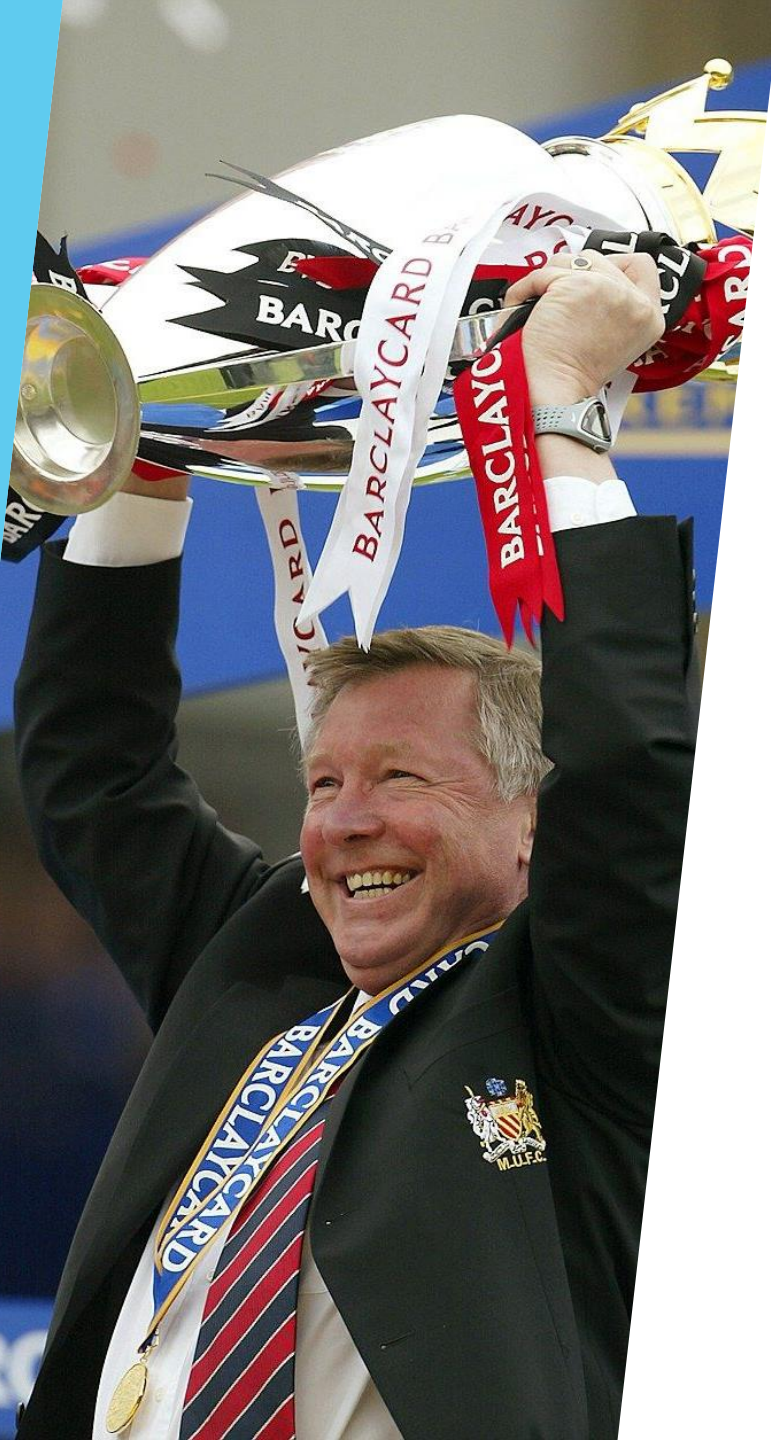
- ▶ People in my work have become like friends.
- ▶ They help me not because it is part of their job but because they care.



How to have  
a happy  
ending?

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# How to have a happy ending

- ▶ Don't give up.
- ▶ Keep challenging.
- ▶ Believe you can achieve anything.

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# How to have a happy ending

- ▶ Don't make assumptions about who we are and what we can do.
- ▶ Use what interests us to learn how to support us.
- ▶ Get to know us and the people who know us best.
- ▶ Ask how we want to be helped.



# How to have a happy ending

## Ask

- Ask what a happy ending looks like for us as individuals.

## Hear

- Hear what we are really saying.

## Do

- If you say you are going to something, do it.


## Understand

- Understand us.

## Believe in

- Believe in us.



A vibrant night scene of the Disney Castle, illuminated with red, white, and blue lights. The castle's spires and turrets are detailed with gold and blue. A large, bright firework bursts in the dark sky above the castle, with smaller sparks falling around it. The overall atmosphere is magical and celebratory.

And we can  
all live  
happily ever  
after

THE END