



Speaking from Experience Young people & Hearing Impairment

Transcript for chapter 5 of 7: Social life

Tamara 10, diagnosed age 1: Well, Rachel, my friend, she knows. When I go to her house, she has a hearing loss, like me.

Khaled 12, diagnosed as an infant: Every day I play with my friend. I've got a best friend.

Tyson 13, diagnosed age 3: Well, I know a kid that has them [hearing aids because he used to go to my primary school.

Georgia 10, diagnosed age 4: I went to this hearing impaired play group and I met her there. We used to go to all the hearing impaired activities during the holidays together. We used to meet beforehand, and we'd sometimes go out for lunch. Sometimes we'd plan a sleep over party.

Cynthia 18, diagnosed as an infant: It's like you've got another person who's the same as you.

Georgia: She's going through the same things as me. So, if I'm paranoid about something, or worried, I can ask her.

Khaled: It's easier when we have just the deaf people signing. When we play a game, we can sign to each other.

Georgia: I like swimming. I also like going to yoga, dancing and a lot of other things.

Khaled: I'm happy when we start playing sports. We've started playing deaf sports. So, we go there and we start signing about the sports.

Cynthia: I just go with my brothers. I kick the football around.

Khaled: I like basketball and baseball.

Tamara: I like doing hockey, because I have played for lots of years. Well, not a lot, but four years, which is a long time. I play hockey. I play, like, swimming, for more than five years. And I do gym. I just started because I used to do dancing.

Max 10, diagnosed as an infant: I do Tae Kwan Do.

Tyson: I've only lost a little bit of my hearing and I still know how to project because I'm loud. When you're on the football field, you're loud, you don't mumble to the person across the side of the field. You have to yell out to them and say, "Come in", or something, whatever you have to say to them.

Georgia: When we do yoga, we have this thing called relaxation. My mum noticed this and she told me this, that my teacher, Bronwyn, always walks between me and my little brother, to make sure we hear.



Max: It's easier to hear when it's a long room and it's just concrete on the walls.

Georgia: I can still do swimming, but I have to keep eye contact with my teachers. I can do a lot of things, but I have to be careful it's not too loud and the teachers aren't too soft.