

Gabby's journey



I was in high school, and from Year 8 onwards I wasn't engaging in any of my lessons except for PE which meant I spent all of my time in isolation or wandering around hiding from staff. When I got to Year 10 school mentioned me starting an alternative provision at Wirral Riding Centre. At first I didn't know what to expect because I was scared of horses! When I first started I wouldn't even go into a stable or touch a horse. After day 1 of being at the yard I begged my mum to let me do more days! I ended up doing two days and loved it. I feel like once I had started at the yard school became better. By the time I was in Year 11 I actually went to all of my lessons and didn't run away from any of the staff. As I got to the end of Year 11 Phil, who is the owner of Wirral Riding Centre came to school to explore the options of me doing an apprenticeship with them. Of course, I said yes and I now work 4 full days here!

I can now ride on my own, walk, trot, canter and I am learning to jump! I manage horses on my own all the time, looking after them and putting on their tack in their stables.