

OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY REPORT



Student name: Abi	Date of birth: xx/xx/xxxx
Occupational Therapist	Alice
	May 2017

How the disability has an impact on daily life

Physically: Abi has Athetoid Cerebral Palsy. She mobilises in an R82 Panda Manual attendant pushed wheelchair provided by Bristol NHS wheelchair service. She is reliant on support to manage all aspects of her personal care routine. Abi requires regular re-positioning and the opportunity to access alternative postural positions e.g. classroom chair, bed rest, onto mats, to ensure she is comfortable and has the opportunity to have time out of her wheelchair. Abi's hand function is impacted by her tone and athetosis so at times she may require hand over hand guidance to access objects and switches. Abi is able to grasp and release some objects both in lying and sitting but requires time to activate her hands and accurately pick up items. Abi shows preference to using her left hand for switch activation and finds it easier to access and sustain large switches. She can eye point where she would like the switch to be placed on her tray and will often choose slightly to the right so that when she stretches her left hand she can reach it easily. Abi can fatigue quickly and therefore requires regular breaks.

Sensory: Abi tends to be led by her auditory sense and responds best to auditory instructions. She has had her eyes tested with no abnormalities identified however her functional vision appears to indicate some mild processing difficulties. Abi benefits from additional time to process visual information and to have stimulus presented in close proximity to her (approx. 2 feet away). Abigail is more able to attend to information within her left visual field due to natural head position. Abi struggles to see items where there is visual complexity so less cluttered environments enable Abi to process information more easily. Abi enjoys vibration and feedback through her hands and this can assist her to stay alert and engaged in education.

Cognitive: Abi is able to follow verbal instructions although requires time to process information and make her response. Abigail is able to make simple choices within her day to day routine and sessions. Abi's ability to sustain concentration is impacted by her physical fatigue and she is also easily distracted by noise.

Motivations: Abi enjoys music (particularly popular chart songs), creative activities and swimming. See SLT report for communication info– using Yes/No cards with eye gaze and Big point switches

How best to support Abi:

- Make sure Abi is hoisted back fully into her chair so she is comfortable and supported
- Give Abi regular opportunities out of her chair
- Abi's strength and athetoid movements lead to regular tightening, mending and alterations on her wheelchair so please check her chair prior to each session
- Present information to Abi within her left visual field
- Give Abi time to process information and make choices / communicate
- Abi enjoys vibration activities – use hand massager or vibration snake (OT Dept) to assist with Abi's engagement and alertness if struggling to engage
- Abi shows a left hand preference for holding items
- Abi prefers large switches placed slightly to the right from middle and tends to use her left hand to activate.

