



JACOB LOVES HIS DRAISIN ECLIPSE!

Jacob Pinfold from Hull is a fantastic example of how inclusive cycling can benefit people of all ages and levels of disabilities.



Jacob with therapists Lora and Rachel

Jacob is a 12-year-old boy with autism who regularly uses his Draisin Eclipse supplied from Quest 88 at East Park, Hull. As a baby, mum Tracey Pinfold noticed that Jacob responded far

better to routine; finding comfort in set processes and structure, rather than change or uncertainty. Little did she realise then that baby Jacob was born on the autism spectrum." Jacob was born premature and had a condition called pneumothorax, which meant he had a hole in his lung," explains Tracey. "He also had another condition called Pyloric Stenosis, whereby surgeons had to operate on the muscles in his stomach



Jacob on his Draisin Eclipse

for him to be able to successfully digest food; so needless to say, we had a few complications with him at the start but we bonded quickly."

The family soon realised Jacob was different. Tracey said: "I knew there was something different by the way he responded to things. We spoke to a language therapist, a clinical psychologist and a number of other assessors, from which they gauged that Jacob was autistic and had significant learning difficulties."

Using a Captain Duo Tandem first and now the Draisin Eclipse from Quest 88 has massively improved Jacob's confidence along with his muscles and stamina levels. "Whereas previously assisted he used to walk several steps and sit down, Jacob has made significant progress in his independence.



With assistance, Jacob has learnt to ride a bike, improving his motor skills and muscle tone, making him stronger physically. The bikes have also helped us to integrate him into a more social environment and given him the opportunity to learn a skill which allows him to be amongst friends. Jacob enjoys



it tremendously and it has been amazing for us to be able to do something he enjoys with him and watch his face light up when the bike comes out."

Jacob's Applied Behaviour Analysis Programme Specialist, Lora Tessayman, is delighted at Jacob's progress following the use of the bikes: "Cycling has helped immensely with Jacob's independence and confidence. He is able to access activities outside the home and it makes his exercise routine fun. Jacob has a skill deficit in play and leisure skills due to his condition and this skill deficit often led to disruptive behaviours during less structured time. We taught him to ride the bike as a replacement skill which has, over time, led to a decrease in these behaviours during free time, which is absolutely brilliant and a great start for Jacob."



The Quest 88 bikes have also helped the family build a stronger bond with Jacob and they are even thinking of taking the Eclipse on holiday. Dad Richard added: "We would definitely recommend the bikes to other families who are in our situation. It was a huge step for us and for Jacob. It has given him the opportunity to be as independent as he can be whilst having fun and some well deserved family time."