

We value Lorraine's  
care of Daniel hugely

Shared Lives East Lothian

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## Shared Lives stories

### *Lorraine and Daniel by Daniel's family*

Having good regular respite has been crucial to our family. We have two sons with learning disabilities and not only do we as a family need respite from caring for them, they also need respite from us and each other. Daniel has known Lorraine since he was seven years old. He is now 23 and still looks forward to his fortnightly visits to her home. He is so much now part of Lorraine's family that it now feels like he is off to his Granny's for a sleepover. He loves seeing her grandchildren and as they have all grown up together, they see him as a big part of their families too.

We value Lorraine's care of Daniel hugely and we know she loves him almost as much as she loves her own grandchildren.

She has always been reliable and consistent. She completely understands how much the service means to us as a family. Lorraine is the benchmark to which all short respite services should aspire to.

We have had short respite for our other son from several families and discovered that sometimes having poor quality, unreliable and inconsistent support is worse than no support at all.

The benefits of good quality respite are:

- We get a break to spend some quality time with our other children and/or ourselves
- Just having one child at home to care for takes the pressure off a bit and the house feels a bit calmer for a

while

- Daniel gets to enjoy spending time away from us and his pesky little brother
- It breaks up Daniel's weekends as he needs routine and stimulation
- It allows us to recharge our batteries so we can continue to care