

Stacey

Who are you?

I'm Stacey, and I'm a dance practitioner within the TIN team.

Which Community Champion are you a Buddy for?

I'm a buddy for Helen Jamieson.

What have you done so far with your Community Champion?

So far, we have covered quite a bit, we firstly created a personalised timetable together so that Helen knew exactly where she needed to be and when.

We then spent time going through the presentation and adding some changes to these before Helen presented them to the Tuesday and Thursday groups.

We also discussed which activities Helen would like to take lead on, Helen is very keen to teach Makaton karaoke, so we have researched and come up with some songs which we began learning the Makaton to.

We have also looked into how to create a lesson plan and created ours for the ConnectIN Makaton sessions after Christmas.

Another thing we have done, is a reflection journal, where Helen monitors her progress, capturing things that have gone well and also identifying things to work on. We have included photos within this, captured when Helen was leading presentations to the other groups.

How do you think your role as a Buddy has been beneficial?

I am honoured to have the role of a Buddy, and hope that Helen has found it as beneficial as I have. To be able to inspire and share my skill set with Helen has been lovely, we both seem to be very organised beings and so showing Helen the behind-the-scenes tasks, such as creating timetables and lesson plans has been fun, adding her own flare to them with colours and icons. I also know quite a bit of Makaton (still a lot to learn) so this has come in handy when supporting Helen.

Have you seen any change in your Community Champion or others?

I have seen a positive change in all Community Champions over the last half term and it has been an absolute JOY to witness. Their confidence in particular has just grown and grown, their ability to share ideas and communicate with others as well as their dedication and commitment to the roles already has been phenomenal. Well done!!!!

