

My PATH - A Young Person's Experience

Before my PATH meeting I met with my teacher (Mrs MM) to find out what a PATH was and what would happen.

- “Mrs MM asked me what music and colours I like and what mum and dad like to drink. Hearing my favourite music, ‘Happy Mondays’ music makes me feel happy and that the meeting was all about me.”
- I liked seeing a picture of the PATH drawing we were going to use and hearing some of the questions.
- We also talk about who to invite to my PATH meeting - who knows me best, who helps me.

“I love ‘Alice in Wonderland’, my teacher loves Alice too, and she made lots of effort for me.” She thought about some pictures that I might like to have at my PATH meeting.



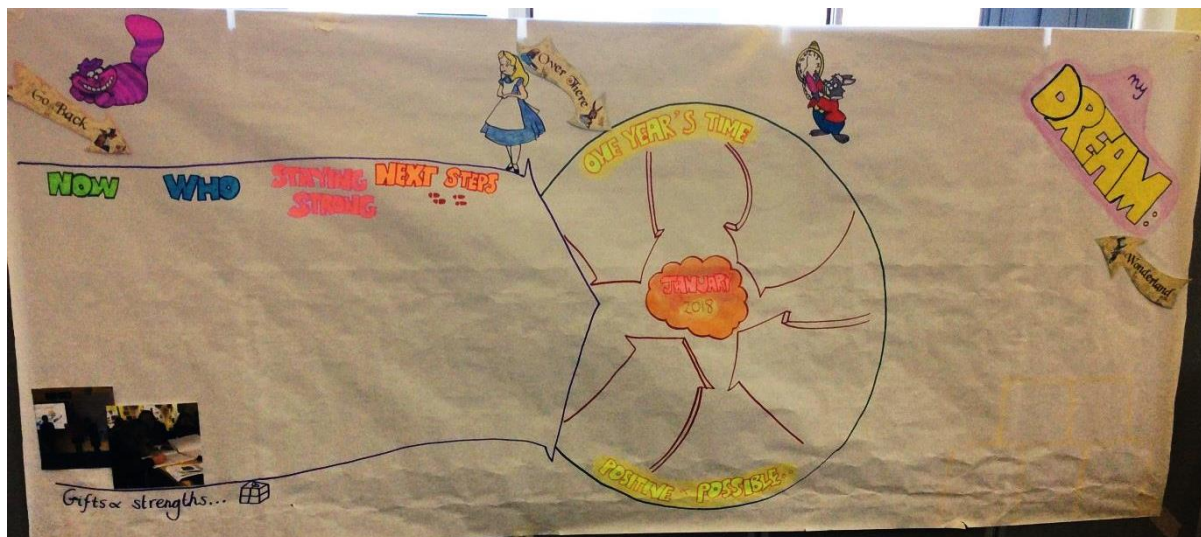
Mrs MM borrowed some Alice in Wonderland themed pictures and props from dance & drama. This made me feel very happy.

When everyone arrived for my PATH meeting I said hello and gave everyone a drink. “My mum likes water and my dad likes Coke”.



Mrs MM showed us the big wall picture she had drawn – this is called the PATH and is where we drew and wrote down what we were all saying.

This is the PATH before we started the meeting. “Photos of me at school were put on the paper as well my Alice drawings”



We sat around the PATH picture and I introduced everyone to each other.



Note: This report is written to help a young person understand what might happen as part of the PATH process. It provides an account of what happened for this young person during their PATH meeting, direct quotes are shown in speech marks.

"I chose 3 people for the 'Ground Rules' – we used some props to help us with this. It was very funny!"



"My dad liked the squeaky toy as he got to make a loud squeaky noise when someone said something we didn't understand. My mum liked the chains – she said it made us all think about all the lovely things that I could do, normally she only gets to hear about the things that I find hard."

We were then asked to 'dream' about me and what we would all like in my future. Some music was played to help us relax and think.

I got to hold the 'Talking Wand' first and tell everyone about my dream future. "Lizzie drew a picture of my dream onto the PATH". I then picked who I wanted to hear from next until we all took our turn.



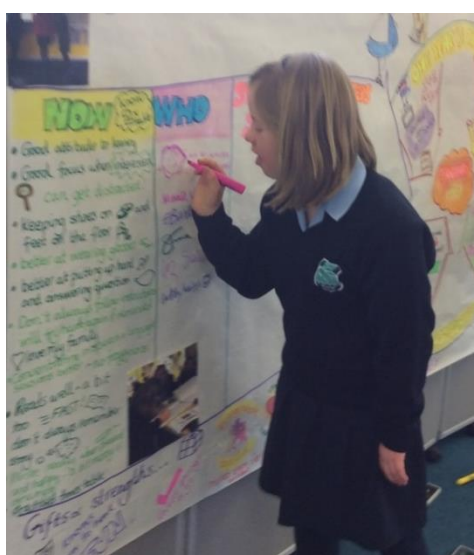
We then did some time travelling to 'One Year's Time'. "I got to use my acting skills". I picked two people to work the controls of my time-travelling machine. When we were in "One Year's Time" we talked about all the things we would have done to get me closer to my dream. I really liked seeing pictures on my PATH of all these things.



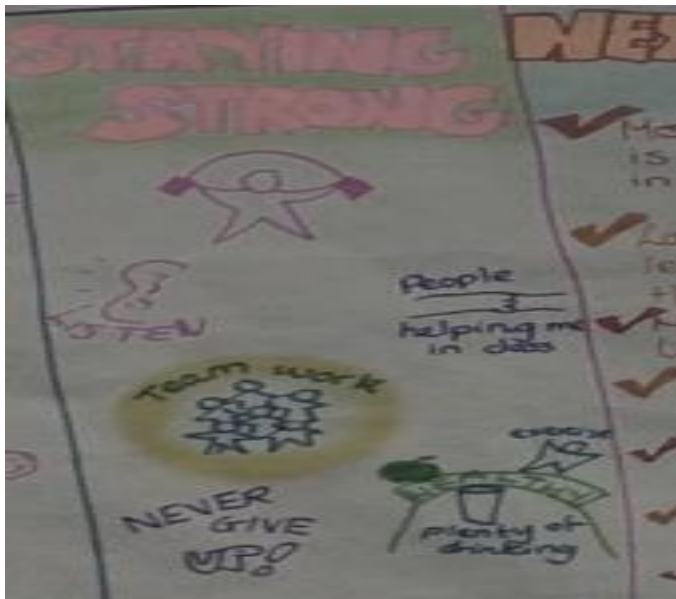
Everyone was invited to say my gifts and strengths.



I looked at the photos of all the things I have done at school and talked about these. Some of these were stuck onto the PATH in the "Now" section. We all signed my PATH and agreed who would help me do my 'One Year Time' goals which will to help make my dream come true.



We also talked about the things that would help me 'Stay Strong' and keep focused and happy. Everyone then talked about 'Next Step' - what we would all need to do to help me get my 'One Year's Time' goals.



I was asked to think of name for my PATH and helped to draw and colour this in.

“My PATH makes me very happy. 😊 It was really good and all about my world so far, there was lots of effort all of me. It makes me want to try my best and learn how to do it all. My PATH shows everyone what’s in my head and I can then show my sisters. If my sisters came next time it would be awesome.”

