

Positive behaviour support and STOMP medication reduction with Charlie and his parents.



Charlie is 30 years old and lives at home with his mum and dad. He has autism and a learning disability.



He goes to a day service 5 days a week where he does activities like walking, cooking and crafts.



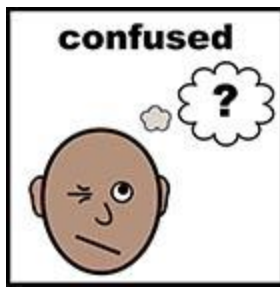
Charlie's parents got in touch with the Positive Behaviour Support Team because they were worried about him swearing and hitting people and they could not understand why.



He has been on Risperidone, an antipsychotic medication, for 7 years. Charlie's parents did not think that this medication did anything to help his behaviour. He does not have a mental health problem.



The Positive Behaviour Support Team worked with Charlie, his parents and his day service to understand why he was swearing and hitting people.



They found that Charlie would swear and shout when he did not understand what was happening around him, like if plans changed last minute.



A speech and language therapist supported Charlie and his family to develop communication aids. These helped others show Charlie what was happening around him. This meant that he shouted and hit others less.



Charlie's parents continued to worry about him taking medication that did not work. Charlie also had some side-effects from the medication. Together Charlie's parents and the Positive Behaviour Support team decided to try and reduce Charlie's medication.



With support from the team pharmacist Charlie's medication was slowly reduced. He is now on half the dose of medication. There are plans for him to come off this completely.



His parents and carers still use the communication aids and Charlie copes better with changes in his day. He also uses the communication aids to talk to others about his day and things that he enjoys.



Thanks to Positive Behaviour Support, Charlie's parents and carers understand why he swears and hits others and can make sure he gets what he needs.