Kristof Polgar, 11, from Tipton
Mum Erika Polgar works at NHS England in the Midlands

Kristof received a split liver transplant when he was three-years-old. His donor was a 21-year-old named Justin who sadly committed suicide. Kristof was treated at Birmingham Children's Hospital while the rest of the donor liver was given to an adult at the Queen Elizabeth Hospital in Birmingham.

Kristof required a liver transplant due to a rare condition called Progressive Familial Intrahepatic Cholestasis (PFIC) which meant he was unable to walk, eat or drink – all of which he began to do post-transplantation. The Liver Unit at BCH is world-renowned for its innovation in providing split liver transplantations and has grown in a really short amount of time thanks to its founder, Professor Deirdre Kelly CBE.

The summer after Kristof's transplant (which was in 2011) was when he first started showing an interest in sports, specifically tennis, and he's since gone on to compete in eight consecutive British Transplant Games in racquet sports like tennis, table tennis and badminton. He's won 16 medals during his years and has been named British Champion at the Games 13 times across his three spots. He's now been invited to compete at the Worlds in Newcastle where he hopes to go up against some of the best players in the world.

As part of Kristof's journey, he and his family have gone on to meet his donor's family. Justin's mum, Angie, is a passionate advocate for organ donation and is very open about her experience as the mother of a man whose organs went on to save multiple lives following his tragic death. She even presented Kristof with a gold medal in last year's games.

Link to photos and videos both before his transplant and since – several of him competing at the games: https://www.dropbox.com/sh/1y7xrzpn08nv6p6/AAD60SSXW_22OE4u0oVN4CjNa?dl=0

Birmingham Mail story from 2016: https://www.birminghammail.co.uk/news/midlands-news/transplant-boy-dreams-becoming-tennis-11710911

Interview on Lorraine: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=s4nBGPlCeU4