



LISA'S VOLUNTEER STORY

We met with Lisa to hear her story about being a volunteer Befriender who has supported her young person Will for 11 1/2 years, from primary school to becoming a Care Leaver.

"Will was 8 years old when we were first matched, so I have been lucky enough to see him grow from a small boy to a young man who now towers over me! I have been there through primary school, the transition to secondary school, I helped him choose his A-levels and saw him get his first paid job - I am so proud of all he has achieved and know that he will succeed in achieving his long term career goal in Health & Social Care.

I will keep supporting Will if he would like and am also now looking to move into Mentoring young people with YLF. I would 100% recommend being a YLF volunteer to others, it does not just mean that you are helping to support young people in need, it also means that you yourself grow as a person. There are many situations where you are forced to take a step outside of your comfort zone, whether that be to try your hand at fishing (and failing miserably!), taking on new adventures and challenges with your young person or dealing with new situations."

Will has been lucky enough to have such amazing support from Lisa, which she wanted to continue when he turned 18, and made the transition into becoming a Care Leaver. Thanks to Lisa's support over the years and confidence building excursions together to the cinema, theatre and bowling, alongside support with interview preparations and CV work, Will has been able to get himself his first paid job upon leaving school!

"IT BRINGS SO MUCH MORE TO YOUR LIFE THAN YOU COULD IMAGINE SO ENJOY EVERY SECOND OF YOUR VOLUNTEER JOURNEY FOR IT WILL FLY BY."