



The **Changemakers**



who are we?

“We are a group that involve young people with a disability or who are neurodivergent.”

“We learn new skills, get more confidence, and make friends”

“There are fun activities”

“When we meet up we can share our experiences and opinions which makes things better for other young people”

What have we been focusing on?

Language
around
'SEND'

Independent
skills

Healthcare
professionals

Change
programme

Making the
Local Offer
website more
accessible

What is
important
to us?

Accessible
social spaces

Public
transport

A sense of
purpose

Having our
say

Independence

Mental health

Fun and varied
opportunities

Social Spaces

Not all social spaces suit us

**Some of us prefer chatting to
people online**



**BUT online spaces can be hard to
access for others**

**Lots of people feel really lonely after
leaving school**

Independence

**Don't make us feel like we have to eventually
be able to do everything by ourselves**

**We want help doing the things WE want to
do, not what you want us to do**

Parents are sometimes the biggest issue!

**What independence looks like is different for
each person**

Language

Special Educational Needs and Disabilities

“It’s
condescending”

“I’m not special just
because I’m autistic”

“Special is what
you would call a
baby”

“I don’t get this
because I left school
ages ago”

“Who I am isn’t just about
how I learn stuff”

A shift to ‘Deaf, disabled, and neurodivergent’?



**What do
we want
from you?**

**Understand the value of
different types of socialising**

Don't 'bubble wrap' us

Use language that we prefer

**Help us find purpose if we don't
have a lot going on in our lives**

**Recognise our uniqueness rather than
grouping us into labels**

Thank you
for listening!