



Attention learning and memory after ABI

"I found it really hard to concentrate after my accident. Schoolwork was a nightmare and I used to get into trouble for not listening. When my teacher spoke to my mum at my parents' evening, mum explained to him how my brain injury had damaged my concentration. The teacher was much more patient with me then. People are usually much kinder when they understand that this is a result of my brain injury.

I always wanted to be a doctor but all the new learning that takes is too difficult for me now. It's very hard to accept this because I really had my heart set on it. I find learning new things difficult. Some days it's easy and other days I can't seem to learn anything. If I have a headache it can be even worse.

I'm 16 now and have to start thinking about what I might do when school finishes. I really like helping animals and so I'm going to work at the animal sanctuary as an assistant when I finish school. It's not the same as being a doctor, but I still get to care for the animals and do something that I'm really interested in. Animals are great and having a brain injury doesn't stop me from taking good care of them."

