



## Friends and family after an ABI

“Amy and I have been friends for ages. We first met at infant school and we’ve been friends ever since. We did everything together and we were always out having fun.

When Amy got sick I was really worried. Everything happened so quickly and one day we were walking to school and the next day she was really sick in intensive care. I used to go and see her often.

Amy’s mum told me that Amy might not be the same when she first woke up. Her illness had damaged her brain and the doctors weren’t sure on how she was going to be affected. There was a chance that she might have changed.

When Amy did wake up she was still very weak and she couldn’t talk. It was really difficult for her because Amy talks a lot normally. I think she was worried that I would go off her and not want to be her friend anymore.

I told her that really good friends stand up for one another all the time. I wasn’t going to not be her friend anymore just because she got sick.

A few people in our class who were Amy’s friends don’t hang around with us much anymore. That’s OK though, it is better to have good friends around you who will stand by you even if you do get sick.

Amy will make more friends when she goes to rehabilitation. I’m going to keep in touch and I will go and see her too. There are always plenty more friends around the corner, sometimes it is hard to see that though.”

