



Being treated differently after ABI

"I had been back at school for a few weeks before I noticed people treating me differently. People stopped asking me so many questions and I didn't feel like a celebrity anymore. In fact, I felt quite lonely because at first everyone gave me lots of attention, then they started leaving me alone.

I still have problems with my disinhibition. I have a short temper when I have a headache and if I feel unwell it is more likely I will swear at you. I know this can be a problem so try and do what they showed me in rehabilitation to help. It can still be hard though and sometimes my disinhibition is still a problem.

Some kids don't know how to react around me. They asked questions before and now aren't sure what to say to me. When I'm not well my disinhibition can put them off too.

I still feel like people are a bit bored with me sometimes. When I first went back to school I was really popular but that seems to have changed. Nobody asks me to play football at breaktime anymore.

That gets me cross too. I still feel like I'm the same. I used to have lots of friends at school but I don't have as many now, though my best friends are still there for me. They understand what is going on.

Schoolwork has changed too. I can't do the same things I used to and I find it hard to learn new things. The teachers have given me some special work to do that will help me re-learn some of the old things I've forgotten. That can be hard as I'd like to be able to do the same work as my classmates.

People are often nicer when they understand what has happened to me and that I can't help the way I behave. Getting a teacher to explain this to your classmates does make things better."

