

James Hobson: Percy Hedley Newsletter

Hello, my name is James Hobson and I been a student at Percy Hedley School from September 1994 – July 2006. Before I came to Percy Hedley School I was at another school in Durham and while I was there at the age of 5 I knew I was different from the other boys and girls in my class. I was lacking concentration and not keen on schoolwork maybe I wasn't ready for it and scared of going there every day and that's when I was diagnosed with Asperger Syndrome and ADHD. In spring of 1994 I went for a week assessment at Percy Hedley School and my teacher was Mrs Fairweather. In September 1994 I started my 11 and a half years at Percy Hedley School and during my first few years my reading and mathematic skills got better and better as the school really helped me. Other subjects I liked during the years at Percy Hedley School were PE, Woodwork, IT, Food Technology, French, Geography and my favourite subjects that gave me confidence were Drama and Music when in the early 2000s I learned to play the guitar and started taking part in Xmas Talent Shows and Summer Concerts. I've been on a few school trips away from which I found a challenge as not I got homesick some of the time, with my condition I was not used to going away without my parents, but I enjoyed it with some of the activities on offer. The hardest moment I went through at Percy Hedley School was when in October 2000 my mother died of cancer but I carried on kept gaining success when I passed a Food Hygiene Course in November 2002, Work experience in Catering 2003, Kwik Save in 2004 (Later became a Saturday job) and Whitley Bay Playhouse in 2005. After I left Percy Hedley School in July 2006 I went ESPA College in Sunderland until July 2009. These days I'm still working at McDonalds which I've been since my final year at Percy Hedley School in October 2005. I worked at Marks and Spencer's on the side and I'm part of a drama group since 2013 and in April this year we putting on Shrek The Musical at The Consett Empire.

