

TRANSCRIPT: TA2 care role

Khiri George

I work with sixteen to nineteen year old students, all in wheelchairs and non-verbal. They've got multiple disabilities, not just one.

I assist with changing. I also help with brushing their teeth and if they need their clothes changed, we do do that as well.

They need assisting with feeding. Some children are prone to aspirating so when they're eating they can choke. And we have to all be trained by the speech and language therapist on how to feed them correctly and any positions to put them in to support their feeding, to prevent any choking or aspirating.

We do talk through what we're doing to them, so they're aware of step-by-step what we are doing. So as we're undressing them we will say, 'We're going to take your pad off now. We are going to freshen you up now', 'cause that way, if they're unhappy with what we're doing then they can communicate back to us.

They can communicate through eye pointing. We use a lot symbols and signs. Over time, you get to know their gestures and how they verbalise through sounds and noises rather than communicate verbally.