



RE: Application for an adapted trike

23rd September 2021

Name: George Taylor

DOB: 22/09/2014

Diagnosis: Autism, Epilepsy

I have been working with George Taylor and his family for three years and am writing in support of his application for an adapted trike. George has a diagnosis of autism which manifests in a number of ways including, but not limited to:

- no danger awareness
- sensory processing disorder
- non-verbal

In addition, George has Epilepsy and can have a seizure at any time meaning it is not safe for him to ride a regular bike. An adapted trike with suitable straps and padding would keep him safe if he had a seizure while in the trike.

George's parents are keen cyclists and regularly take George's older siblings on family bike rides. However, as they do not currently have access to a suitable trike for George he often misses out on these occasions and the family finds themselves taking part in separate activities.

I believe George and his family as a whole would benefit from this adapted trike for a number of reasons:

Physically

George would benefit greatly from being able to take part in regular exercise in a safe and fun way. At times, George can become quite hyper and also get very frustrated and upset when he is unable to express himself. Having something to provide focus for him would help alleviate these episodes as well as help him to expel some of his excess energy.

Although George is primarily non-verbal and relies on picture cards to communicate, when he trialed the equipment he shouted out "I want bike!". This is a huge leap forwards for George and demonstrates the incredible impact this equipment would have on him.

Socially

When George's older siblings go out for bikes rides with their mum or dad, the other parent has to remain at home with George because it's not safe for him to join in, meaning he's often socially excluded.

Being able to join in with family activities would mean the world to not only George, but also his parents, brother and sister. The family are very close and his older siblings are very protective of George. They would love to be able to spend more time together as a family.

Some of George's classmates also have similar trikes, and it would be a great opportunity for him to join them to help develop his social skills.

Mentally

Having his own trike and being able to experience something that other children do so freely would have a positive effect on George's mental health.

While, the family are very close it can be challenging for all of them when George has a 'melt down'. So, anything that would help keep George calm will be beneficial to the whole family.

Please consider George's application for an adapted trike. If you need any further information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely,

John Smith,

Occupational Therapist, Northampton NHS

Email: John.smith@northamptongeneral.nhs.uk

Tel: 01206 123456



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Diagnosis: Autism, ADHD, Epilepsy

George Taylor has a diagnosis of Autism, ADHD and Epilepsy.

The family have identified that an adapted trike would be beneficial to George. Having assessed George, I confirm that I believe he would benefit from this equipment.

Yours sincerely,

John Smith,

Occupational Therapist, Northampton NHS