



Down Syndrome
Australia

Inclusion in a University setting– Susie’s experience

Susie is a young woman, with Down syndrome who is studying at a metropolitan University. We asked Susie some questions about her experience at University to help others to see the possibilities of further education.

What do you enjoy most about University?

The things I enjoy doing are being included in the sessions, interacting with other students and being independent and optimistic about what I see myself as in the future.

Why did you want to go onto study at University?

The idea of studying at University really sparked an interest by looking at the possibilities of what I wanted to do. The reason I wanted to go into study at University is because I felt comfortable learning such new and wonderful experiences during the sessions. Deep down I wanted to grow in society as independent and professional at the same time.

What are the best parts about being a uni student?

The best part of being at University is learning something new, to experience the atmosphere of being a student and to have the ability to make new friends.

Showing me around the campus and being included in that way by people has made me feel comfortable being at the University.

Is there anything the University have done to make your time at uni easier?

The University has helped me learn more by making the learning process visual as well as physical for example reading theory. To make me feel that I can learn from people as well as from books. The university has provided me with information and help with everything I needed to know about the topic.

Are there things you find difficult at Uni?

There are things I have had difficulty with, I have this learning pattern where I need instructions and power-points to be written down. This is called Limited Executive Function, I found it very hard to obtain notes that aren't in an academic language. I have also found it difficult at times, being isolated from some people who couldn't understand me in general.

Anything else you would like to share with us?

What I would like to share is that all the experiences I've been having at University is the most rewarding experience of my life, that I hope in the future I can work as a freelance performer, director and playwright. I am enjoying every minute of it, every learning experience and every friend I make along the way.