

Coram film transcript

Adoptive parents discuss the benefits of Coram's Adoption Activity Days

SALLY BEAUMONT, Activity Day Service Manager, Coram:

With an Activity Day, children have that sometimes last chance to find their family that they wouldn't have had before.

Rather than adopters relying on a written profile about the children they get the chance to be able to meet the children that they've read about, so it really brings children and their little personalities alive, so it's directly bring people together.

LAURA, Adoptive Parent:

If you just read a child's paperwork you don't really get a sense of who they are, and I think for children with disabilities as well it's easy to focus on the disability and not actually see the child, you know, he's just like any other child, he's got his own set of challenges, but he's unique and he's different and he's just perfect.

I've always wanted to adopt a child even from being very young. I grew up in a fostering household, seen lots of children coming in and out and it's something that I've always wanted to do myself.

So my birth son was two, I separated from my husband and I just thought: this is the right time. I spent the next few years just researching different conditions and how the whole process works and then got the ball rolling from there.

We went down to interact with the children and as soon as I seen him I just thought, "he is my son". I didn't know much about him at that time but over the course of the day I learned a lot about him and could spend some time with him and, yeah, it was just great. Our paths crossed that day and I've got that Activity Day to thank for that.

I just know that he's my son and it's meant to be and, you know, I'm here, I've been put on this earth to look after him, and he fulfils our life in such a big way – I need him just as much as he needs me!

My little one just lit up the room as soon as I seen him, so I think it's a great opportunity to meet your child that you're looking for.

There's lots of staff around that you can talk to and it's not as daunting as you think it is. There's just lots of children there having a great time, having a little party, and, you know, they'll be colouring in and going around on little bikes and they're all just really happy and you might meet the child that you've been looking for. The child may light up the room and you'll just know instantly that that is the child that you need to enquire about.