

'This is Riley' (video transcript): February 15th 2019

Website: www.autismtransitions.org

Video URL: <https://youtu.be/Pd2ReMMCVQI>

Researcher: *'And in terms of the activities that he likes...?'*

Laura-Jane (Riley's mother): *'They're still the same, like usually his tablet, playing in the garden. To be honest he doesn't really... I don't know if he plays with any children much really, he likes to play by himself. He'll go and see what's going on and stay there but he...if children come to him 'no, I don't want you, go away'.*

Laura-Jane watching video footage of Riley: *'He sings constantly...that was the 'wheels on the bus'...and his favourite one at the moment is 'head, shoulders, knees and toes', he comes and does the actions on our body...That is surprising...it's the longest time I've seen him with children'.*

Kathryn (Aviary Nursery Manager): *'Riley is just so happy, most of the time. He's just so happy, but he has his attention span of nothing. He just wants to do something over there, over there, over there, over there. And you just think, oh hold on, stay, do it, yeah! He put a piece on a jigsaw puzzle! So, and that's the nice bit about him, because he does go and he looks everything but the challenge is to keep him there for any length of time...'*

Gareth (Aviary Nursery Inclusion Teacher): *'With Riley I think he likes to do everything, but he only does anything for a kind of a maximum of few seconds each. Sometimes, on his own but he can sit and do something for longer, very occasionally you can find him, he'll sit andwill do something. Playing with the water he'll sit and do for quite a long time. Sometimes, he'll actually sit and do a puzzle. He'll sit there on his own, do a puzzle, an interlocking puzzle, all on his own, he'll sit there for a few minutes and do it. But it is very fleeting, very, you know...very occasional that he'll do that. Most of the time he'll spend and flitting between things and doing them for a few seconds each time. So, I think with Riley, he likes to do everything and it's not really anything much he doesn't like, cos he'll do everything but he'll do everything for himself for a few seconds.'*

Sarah (Early Years Practitioner at Aviary Nursery): *'Riley, is like spinning, whirling, moving all the time. He's got so much energy, he's interested in anything, so, it's a real strength that in a session he will get round everywhere. If you would just watch Riley, he's probably been to every single play area, done what he wanted to do, a bit of pouring, a bit of feeling, done a bit of puzzle, all these things.'*

Gary (Early Years Practitioner at Aviary Nursery): *'Riley, again Riley loves to run...wants to be involved in what everyone is doing, but it's very quick. So, if it's, 'Oh they are going to the ball pool, I'm going to the ball pool, I'm done with that now I wanna do something else', and I don't think he understands that no you've chosen this, so you now have to try and see some of it out. And his speech again, it's...he can communicate in his own way, but it's hard to know what he wants. And I think he sometimes doesn't understand this well, so like in snack time he's quite happy to pick like 'yes, I'll have bananas' but when you need a drink now because of the weather he doesn't understand that 'I need water' and then he'll get himself wound up and cross, but I don't think he understands why, and he can't tell us 'no I don't want the water, I don't want to drink', he can't*

communicate and it's the screams and then a little tantrum. But he's getting better, now he enjoys the garden, the water, the sand and again it's all on his terms, so you think he enjoys this one thing, what you might get out ready for him, but then the next day he doesn't wanna know'.