

Faye.....10 When people talk to me I like it when they look at my eyes and my face not at my head.

My name is Faye I am ten and live in Tasmania. I have Alopecia Totalis and have had Alopecia Areata since I was five.

In May this year my hair started falling out very quickly. I was scared and felt sad all the time. I was worried about what I would say if someone asked me why my hair was like that. I didn't like going to school or looking at myself in the mirror.

I have two sisters, they would feel upset when I was upset. They didn't like to see my head and cried when I took my hat off. This was hard. I didn't like looking at photos of what I used to look like, I covered up photos of me when I had hair with magnets and sticky notes.



I have never met anyone with alopecia but I do have a pen pal in Melbourne. I have only ever seen photos of her. I don't really like people to see my head, only my family and a few close friends.

When people talk to me I like it when they look at my eyes and my face not at my head. I like it when my friends treat me like they would treat other people and not treat me differently.

I have a lot of beanies and hats. My mum found a lady that makes beanies for me out of fabrics that we buy or out of patterned t-shirts. They are really cool! I like all the comments I get about my hats. It is starting to get hot which can make me uncomfortable.

I have lots of things that make me happy. I like doing my best at sport and trying hard at school. I like sailing, ballet, soccer, swimming and I am in a skipping team. At first it was hard to keep doing them when I lost my hair but I don't get as worried about it now. I love doing my sisters hair and really love sewing and knitting.

I do wish that I didn't have alopecia but I do so I have to make the most of the situation and get on with enjoying my life.



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