

Oscar — This changed my life.



Hello my name is Oscar.

I am 12 years old.

My health has been a battle from birth.

Being diagnosed with high functioning Autism at age 4. (ASD)

Plus many dietary issues.

My Alopecia journey didn't start until I was 8 years old.

On the 17th January 2015 my wonderful older brother died in a car accident.

The grief from his death caused my body to shed all my hair.

The first year I tried to hid my bald head from my friends at school by wearing a hat all day. Although many had noticed I didn't have eyebrows and lashes and asked if I had cancer. Explaining

"No I have Alopecia".

When my best friends came over to play they would say "take your hat off, we don't care if your don't have any hair". This felt good but I still didn't have the courage to not wear a hat out of the house.

My psychologist and I would take about my Alopecia and fear of taking my hat off in public. This fear reduced my enjoyment in life because I wouldn't go swimming, running and play contact sport. All the things I loved doing before Alopecia.

Then in 2017 I went on the Alopecia camp and met other people with Alopecia and could see they were happy to not wear a hat and so I went hatless also. This changed my life.

This year I've started a new school with over 1,000 boys (when my last school only had 46 students. I decided I would not wear a hat. Many boys come up to me in play area and say "hoy what's with the hair". I just say "I have a medical condition called Alopecia" and they would grunt and walk off.

Having Alopecia is a struggle both mentally and physically and I always think everyone is staring at me.

Playing tennis helps me forget about my ASD and Alopecia as I think I'm good at it and people want to talk about tennis not my Alopecia.