

November has been an incredibly exciting month at Access Ability.

We've been busy with two fantastic trips designed to broaden our service users' skills, independence, and confidence.

Community & Social Travel Training - Train Trip

Our first outing was the much anticipated train journey to Manchester!

Although it was a fun trip, the real purpose was to help our service users develop greater confidence when travelling independently.

Sophia from Community Rail Lancashire joined us beforehand at Access Ability to deliver an engaging session on rail safety and the full process of taking a train—from planning the journey to arriving at the destination.

“I would rate this trip 10/10”



“Drama is my favourite session at Access Ability”

Health & Wellbeing Drama - Pantomime Trip

Drama at Access Ability - led by Haylie from Little Voices - continues to be one of our most popular and fast-growing sessions. In fact, it's become so well-loved that we've had to hire a larger venue!

Throughout these sessions, our service users have gained remarkable confidence in public speaking, self-expression, and understanding body language.

Recently, they've been rehearsing for their very own production, featuring scenes from Shrek, Oliver!, School of Rock, and The Lion King.

She even brought interactive games and quizzes to make sure everyone felt well-prepared and reassured.

On the day, our service users met at the train station, ready for their adventure. Working together, they identified the correct train and platform. Sophia demonstrated how to request the Passenger Assist Service, helping one of our wheelchair users learn how to arrange support with ramps and boarding.

Once in Manchester, the group headed to the Science and Industry Museum to explore and learn about the city's rich industrial heritage - because every train journey deserves a meaningful destination! After lunch, the group navigated back to the station and successfully caught their return train to Blackburn.

"Next time I go to Manchester, I'm taking the train"



"It was so funny!"

To inspire them further and show just how magical a full-scale production can be, we took the group to the Blackburn Empire Theatre to watch the Snow White pantomime. For some, it was their first-ever theatre experience, making the day even more special.

Notable favourite moments - from the seven dwarfs shuffling onto the stage, to Dame Tilly responding to questions with cheeky song lyrics, and a particularly unforgettable moment when one of our young people stepped into the spotlight for some lively audience participation!

This trip aimed to support our service users in developing their dramatic talents while also offering the chance to enjoy new experiences, relax with peers, build friendships, and of course - share lots of laughs!

"I really enjoyed watching it!"