

## A Child like Sam

It has only been a year since 13-year-old Sam lost his sight completely and had to have one eye removed. Although he has been blind in the other eye since birth, this was very sudden. The same week that he lost his eye, he told his mother that he would like to learn to play the drums and, from that moment on, his mind was set.

Sam was thrilled to begin weekly drum lessons at school, and even more overjoyed when an AMBER Music Award allowed him to buy his own drum kit. Without AMBER, this would have been impossible as he has five other siblings, one of whom is autistic, and both his parents are both full-time carers. His drumming has provided him with a great sense of achievement. He loves to practice every day and enjoys showing his friends his new skill.

Sam listens to music and tries to copy the beats, and is giving his whole family lessons on how to play the drums properly. This has really boosted his self-confidence, as well as giving him time on his own, time for him, with no medical problems to think about. Sam says:

“It is great having a drum kit, because I can do better drumming. I love it. Thank you for making me so happy.”