

CASE STUDY

SIENNA, AGE 5



Sienna is partially-sighted and has cerebral palsy. When Sienna was 5 months old she started to have infantile spasms. Following investigations Sienna's parents were told the difficult news that she had 'massive brain damage' and that she was completely blind and deaf (although this turned out to be wrong) but doctors also said Sienna would not talk, walk, or be able to sit on her own.

Since starting at Footsteps in 2010 and with the help of funding from Footsteps Foundation, Sienna's physical abilities have grown from strength to strength as she has developed in confidence and independence and has achieved several personal goals which have made a huge difference to the lives of Sienna and her family. After one of her first sessions Rosie was at home with Sienna and as usual put Sienna on the floor surrounded by all her toys. Rosie popped out of the living room and when she got back Sienna had moved into another room for the first time ever giving Rosie a huge shock!

Sienna had her first therapy session at Footsteps in January 2010 and she is now a regular at the Centre, attending at least two sessions each year. As a result, Sienna has increased her mobility and gained more control over her movement - she has learnt to use her hands more freely, crawl, bottom shuffle and she has mastered how to using a forward walking frame on her own, and can now walk holding the hand of an adult. During Sienna's last session at Footsteps she took 6 independent steps which is something her parents never expected to see.

Sienna's parents said, 'To see Sienna achieve what she is doing is amazing. We received a grant from Footsteps Foundation and without it we would not have been able to do so many sessions.'

