1

00:00:03,200 --> 00:00:09,360

Noelani is generally always happy and very motivated.

2

00:00:09,360 --> 00:00:13,440

It's taken a load off me because she's self determined

3

00:00:13,440 --> 00:00:16,440

to be able to manage on her own.

4

00:00:17,640 --> 00:00:24,640

My name is Noelani,

5

00:00:24,640 --> 00:00:29,280

I’m 17 years old,

6

00:00:29,280 --> 00:00:31,480

and I live here in Christchurch.

7

00:00:33,000 --> 00:00:35,520

Just after Noelani turned two years old,

8

00:00:35,520 --> 00:00:39,080

her mum was saying she doesn't seem to be hearing.

9

00:00:39,080 --> 00:00:42,720

And then she went and got her hearing tests through the hospital

10

00:00:42,720 --> 00:00:45,720

and it came back that she was profoundly deaf in both ears,

11

00:00:45,720 --> 00:00:47,360

over 100 decibels.

12

00:00:47,360 --> 00:00:49,000

And that was a huge shock.

13

00:00:49,480 --> 00:00:53,360

And as time went on she got a cochlear.

14

00:00:54,320 --> 00:00:57,160

When it was switched on Noelani's face just

15

00:00:57,160 --> 00:00:58,440

couldn't believe it.

16

00:00:58,440 --> 00:01:01,080

She'd never heard in her life.

17

00:01:01,080 --> 00:01:03,480

And she was just amazing.

18

00:01:04,240 --> 00:01:06,640

He's a really good dad, to be honest.

19

00:01:06,640 --> 00:01:09,400

So we've got a good, we communicate well,

20

00:01:09,400 --> 00:01:10,920

I love my dad.

21

00:01:12,480 --> 00:01:17,520

Noelani started at Hororata and school was doing all that they

22

00:01:17,520 --> 00:01:19,320

could to their ability.

23

00:01:19,320 --> 00:01:22,720

But the funding wasn't as open for interpreters.

24

00:01:23,360 --> 00:01:26,160

And so she went to the Wharenui school, which was a satellite

25

00:01:26,160 --> 00:01:27,960

school for the Van Asch.

26

00:01:27,960 --> 00:01:29,920

So then the next role was Hillmorton.

27

00:01:29,920 --> 00:01:32,120

They've just been great.

28

00:01:33,240 --> 00:01:36,520

Noelani is very kind, very caring.

29

00:01:36,520 --> 00:01:39,640

She shows great empathy to others.

30

00:01:39,640 --> 00:01:43,720

Leadership is something that's grown within Noelani over the last

31

00:01:43,720 --> 00:01:48,600

few years, I think, as she has explored who she is as a young

32

00:01:48,600 --> 00:01:49,600

deaf adult.

33

00:01:50,520 --> 00:01:53,480

One of the things that the Hillmorton students can do here is as a

34

00:01:53,480 --> 00:01:56,480

year 12 student, apply for a leadership blazer.

35

00:01:56,480 --> 00:01:59,920

And so she received one of 40 leadership blazers.

36

00:02:00,880 --> 00:02:03,200

So we're going to play a game now

37

00:02:03,200 --> 00:02:05,760

and the game is called Silly Clay.

38

00:02:06,480 --> 00:02:09,520

So one of the things she's done is initiating the NZSL

39

00:02:09,520 --> 00:02:12,240

teaching to different whānau groups, and she just

40

00:02:12,240 --> 00:02:14,320

conducts herself in a really positive way around

41

00:02:14,320 --> 00:02:15,200

the school.

42

00:02:15,200 --> 00:02:17,560

So she's a positive role model.

43

00:02:18,200 --> 00:02:22,640

I have a real love, it's my passion, it’s my language of course.

44

00:02:22,640 --> 00:02:25,800

I was born deaf and so I love providing my language

45

00:02:25,800 --> 00:02:27,640

or sharing my language.

46

00:02:27,640 --> 00:02:29,720

And when I think about young children,

47

00:02:29,720 --> 00:02:33,200

they haven't learned that, and I think, well, I can do this,

48

00:02:33,200 --> 00:02:34,480

I can teach that.

49

00:02:34,480 --> 00:02:36,040

I've got the skills to do that.

50

00:02:37,960 --> 00:02:41,880

When I first met Noelani, I was really impressed with her manner

51

00:02:41,880 --> 00:02:46,400

actually, which was really happy and her sign name is Happy.

52

00:02:46,400 --> 00:02:51,080

And she was able to quickly engage me with what

53

00:02:51,080 --> 00:02:52,800

her aspirations were for life.

54

00:02:52,800 --> 00:02:55,800

Just her zest for wanting to give everything a go

55

00:02:55,800 --> 00:02:58,280

is really inspiring.

56

00:02:58,280 --> 00:03:00,560

Tell me where you want to go.

57

00:03:00,560 --> 00:03:03,720

To fly to Canada to work on the ski field.

58

00:03:03,720 --> 00:03:05,280

On the ski field?

59

00:03:05,280 --> 00:03:06,400

Wow.

60

00:03:06,400 --> 00:03:09,400

When we get together, we look at Noelani's aspirations

61

00:03:09,400 --> 00:03:10,640

and goals and where she wants to

62

00:03:10,640 --> 00:03:11,920

go in life.

63

00:03:11,920 --> 00:03:15,480

And then we get them down on a piece of paper so that they

64

00:03:15,480 --> 00:03:18,480

become more concrete so that she can actually think, what are

65

00:03:18,480 --> 00:03:22,240

the steps that I need to take to for these goals to happen?

66

00:03:22,240 --> 00:03:24,480

She is given a personal budget.

67

00:03:24,480 --> 00:03:29,400

She can go out and purchase items that support her over

68

00:03:29,400 --> 00:03:32,400

and above where her disability makes everything difficult.

69

00:03:33,440 --> 00:03:35,800

I want to drive one day,

70

00:03:35,800 --> 00:03:37,280

to drive to the mountains.

71

00:03:37,280 --> 00:03:38,080

Yeah.

72

00:03:39,480 --> 00:03:43,880

Four years ago, both my children, Evan and Noelani,

73

00:03:43,880 --> 00:03:46,320

says we want to go skiing.

74

00:03:47,200 --> 00:03:49,480

Straight away, I thought we won't just muck around

75

00:03:49,480 --> 00:03:50,960

and do day passes.

76

00:03:50,960 --> 00:03:52,480

We went and got a season pass and got

77

00:03:52,480 --> 00:03:53,880

all our gear.

78

00:03:53,880 --> 00:03:56,480

And after the first year we were

79

00:03:56,480 --> 00:03:58,240

just into it.

80

00:03:58,240 --> 00:04:01,240

They asked if I wanted to become an ambassador for Mount Hutt

81

00:04:01,240 --> 00:04:04,240

and I thought, wow, yes, what an opportunity.

82

00:04:04,240 --> 00:04:06,320

I was so shocked and surprised.

83

00:04:07,280 --> 00:04:10,040

The team at Mount Hutt have always been supportive of Noelani

84

00:04:10,040 --> 00:04:11,440

and her deafness.

85

00:04:11,440 --> 00:04:14,800

And Noelani, being so open and friendly got to know

86

00:04:14,800 --> 00:04:15,560

a lot of them.

87

00:04:15,560 --> 00:04:19,240

And then she decided her dream job was to be a Lifty,

88

00:04:19,240 --> 00:04:22,000

and she's made it come true.

89

00:04:22,000 --> 00:04:25,600

For my future when I've finished school, I've decided that I'd

90

00:04:25,600 --> 00:04:27,000

really like to study tourism.

91

00:04:27,000 --> 00:04:31,440

To be traveling overseas, tourism, that type of thing, helping

92

00:04:31,440 --> 00:04:32,480

people with that.

93

00:04:32,480 --> 00:04:34,800

That interests me.

94

00:04:35,360 --> 00:04:38,000

I hope that she gets to go to Canada.

95

00:04:38,000 --> 00:04:41,320

Just keep striving, don't stop.

96

00:04:41,320 --> 00:04:43,760

Get out there and enjoy life.

97

00:04:44,360 --> 00:04:47,360

Think positive about life and keep moving forward.

98

00:04:47,360 --> 00:04:50,600

Ask questions, ask people, ones you trust for help,

99

00:04:50,600 --> 00:04:53,360

for support so you can get those goals and

100

00:04:53,360 --> 00:04:54,840

achieve your dream.