

Robert



What people like and admire about me...

Robert is very chilled-out and relaxed
Robert has a very dry and funny sense of humour
Robert is a brilliant dancer
Robert is smart. He's very good at reading situations.
Robert is very generous. He'll do anything for you.

What is important to me...

Robert is very close to his girlfriend, Jules. He makes plans to meet with her 3 or 4 times a week.

Robert's family are important to him. He sees his mum, Carol, every Sunday, and will go to see Newcastle United play at home with his brother, Simon, every 2 or 3 weeks.

Robert has clear boundaries between what are his own and his supporter's responsibilities. Most important is that when he is with college friends he is left alone. Robert describes this as "my time".

Dancing is in Robert's DNA. He finds it exhilarating and a great way to meet friends. Robert dances in local nightclubs once every fortnight and lots at home! A good wheelchair that he can control easily - especially when dancing.

Relaxing - there are times when Robert just wants to chill. This is normally on the sofa with a cup of tea and some chocolate, watching a film or his old Laurel and Hardy DVD's. Visiting Ireland with Jules.

Both Robert and Jules have family in Ireland and they like to get over there at least once every two years. They stay with Jules' Auntie Sinead and Uncle Des.

How to support me well...

If you have something to say, say it. Robert does not like secrets and can tell if something is being kept from him.

Know the boundaries, Robert has them written down. Robert appreciates company but when he is doing his own thing, it's just that.

Help Robert plan his diary. Robert has a busy life and arrangements can get on top of him. Every Sunday evening make time to organise his diary together.

Robert uses a wheelchair, which takes quite a pounding when Robert is dancing. It requires daily checks to maintain its levels of safety and performance.

When Robert is with Jules or his friends don't assume you are invited. Robert is very generous and friendly but sometimes feels like having a supporter around is a bit like having a guard or chaperone.

Robert uses an iPad to say more complex things and hold longer conversations with people. It is essential he has this with him when out.

Relax, have a great time. Although there are some rules in place, Robert loves a good laugh and tries to enjoy life with most of the people he meets.