

19 June 2001

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN

I write to express my sincere appreciation to Sandra Winning and her company "Winning Connection" for making it relatively easy to set up a home programme for my son, who is now 3.9 years old and has global developmental delay.

We had tried many other therapies, but have found that starting a home programme seems to be giving us excellent results. Sandy's resources for this programme have been absolutely invaluable. They have allowed me to commence a home programme knowing I have quality materials that have been tried and tested through Sandy's own experience with autism and her fantastic achievements with her own son.

When you have a child with a disability, it impacts on every single area of your life. Nothing is easy. I have two other older girls and they have many educational, social and sporting commitments. Instead of sitting up till midnight every night leafing through old magazines trying to find a clear picture of a "leaf" or an example of "old" or anything that is required for therapy, I have been able to order a basic set of starter cards and start immediately with working with new therapists in an organised fashion.

This has left me with much more energy to cope with everyone's requirements for the day. To say that Sandy has been an immense help would be an understatement. I can only hope that any parents faced with any developmental disability can access her resources, instead of perhaps sitting down and making cards all night, night after night, year after year. I feel it is amazing she has not just walked away from autism and is now trying to help others, through the benefit of her own experiences.

I hope that anything that can promote awareness of her cards to professionals and parents will be done. She is providing an enormous community service and offering support and proper resources to people who are in very severe, stressful situations.

I feel that my husband and I and our other children can now have some semblance of normality knowing we will be able to cover what is needed for our son's programme with the minimum of disruption and expense.

Yours sincerely,

Anne