

## Case Study: Geoff and Sarah

Supportmatch, 2019



Geoff's sister contacted Supportmatch after they lost their mother who was looking after him. Geoff has Down's Syndrome and even though he was independent, he was frightened of living alone after his mother passed away.

Supportmatch matched Geoff with Sarah, a music teacher who had previous Homeshare experience. They connected immediately at the first meeting; Sarah built a relationship of trust with Geoff from the start. This includes helping in the

mornings with getting ready for the day centre, preparing packed lunches, and often walking home with him, preparing dinner and spending time watching television together. Sarah also looks after the house, doing the laundry and keeping on top of Geoff's medical appointments. Sarah has a wonderful relationship with Geoff's sister whom she helps to deal with everybody involved with Geoff's health e.g. carers, counsellors, doctors and OT's.

After a few months of living together, social services became involved to offer Geoff extra support. The relationship between Supportmatch Homeshare, Sarah and social services has guaranteed Geoff full time support for more than four years, reducing the budget for Geoff's care, but most importantly enabling him to stay much longer at home with Sarah, where he wants to be.