

## PRESENTATIONS FROM YOUNG PEOPLE

### *Meeting of the APPG for Young People's Health* House of Lords, 8<sup>th</sup> May 2018

#### **Archie**

My name is Archie, I am 11 years old. I love Marvel and Star Wars and my favourite subject at school is geography. I have Crohn's disease, dyspraxia and anxiety. Because of this I have used hospital settings since I was 5 years old.

As I am getting older I think it is important to have special adolescent clinics that help you grow up with a disease. Because I feel anxious a lot it would be good to be able to work out if when I feel like that is it normal or a problem.

I am not ready to see my doctor alone yet, maybe in a couple of years. I would want to know I could talk about private things. But I would worry could I remember any changes they said before the letter came.

My time in hospital has been pretty good, but sometime it feels like I'm on a loop going round and round. I'd like to have all my appointments together and to not have to travel in busy times as it makes me very stressed.

If I could tell you three things to make a difference I'd say:

1. Have more young people's forums in local hospitals or GPs or school so you can hear what makes a difference for us
2. More funding for talking doctors – long term, not just for 6 week blocks
3. Places to meet other teenagers like me, who have my worries