



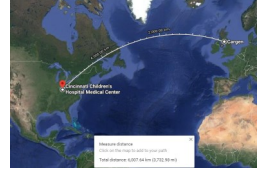
DFN Project SEARCH Dumfries and Galloway is a year long supported employment programme for people aged 16+ in Dumfries and Galloway with additional support needs and Autism Spectrum Disorder.

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# The Big Walk

## We are walking to Cincinnati!



The interns and colleagues at DFN Project SEARCH D&G are into the 4th week of our charity walking challenge. We are attempting to walk the distance from Cargen Tower, Dumfries to Project SEARCH HQ in Cincinnati, Ohio before the end of March 2021.

*The walk is over 3,700 miles and will see everyone of us (12 interns, 3 staff) walk 500,000 steps each to achieve the target.*

*So far we have totalled over THREE MILLION Steps and walked 1,298 Miles, which means we have walked the distance from Cargen Towers to Getafe, Spain. Massive Team effort.*

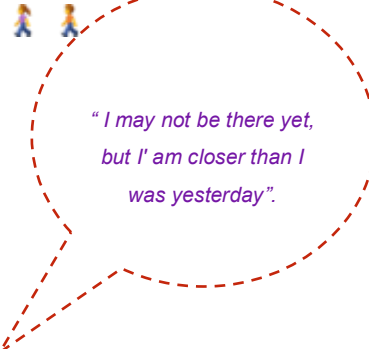
*We are continuing to raise funds supporting both DGRI ICU department and the Calside Primary Sensory Garden and Playground.*

*A huge thank you to all our supporters so far.*

*The poem included in the newsletter was sent to us by one of our lovely supporters to help motivate us on our way to Cincinnati.*

*We've set up a GoFundMe page for any donations and we really appreciate any shares, tags and donations.*

<https://uk.gofundme.com/f/dumfries-projectsearch-walking-challenge?qid=082cfb709e8fbee6cd829bd0c5e3ee91>



*The Tortoise Club  
All the pundits tell us  
That exercise is good,  
We ought to jog and run and swim,  
And not each that much food*

*Well, that's alright for all you folks,  
Those legs work as they should,  
But some of us just hobble –  
If we could run – we would*

*You've all read Aesop's Fables  
Of the tortoise and the hare,  
So, let us remind you –  
"slowcoach" first got there*

*So how about a 'tortoise club'?  
For those without much speed,  
Sports club don't attract us  
So we feel there is a need*

*We could plan a walk for charity,  
And though that sounds quite hard –  
We'd draw up rules most carefully,  
And be sponsored – by the yard*

*We'd keep on going steadily,  
Walk straight – not weave about  
Then reach the end triumphantly  
So all you hares – look out*



### Intern Profile

**Abbi Williams**  
Dumfries

**Why did you join Project Search?**

*I came on to Project Search because before I left school a teacher told me about the programme. I went to meet Elle and Learn about it, I knew it was the right thing for me to do.*

**What are your interests?** *I love watching Tv and playing games and going on bike rides. I like going shopping with my granny.*

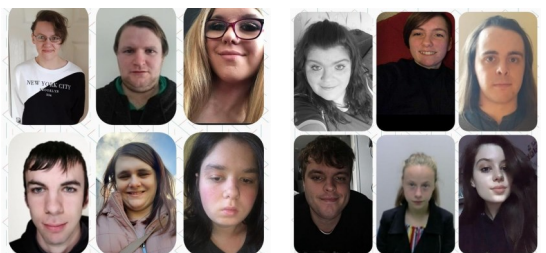
**What job do you hope to get out of project search?** *I hope to be in fulltime employment. I do not know what job I want but I think I would like working in a café and a shop.*

**What has been your best bit about Project Search?** *My favorite bit about being on Project Search is that I love meeting the Interns and getting know them all.*

**Experience of lockdown?** *In the first lockdown I struggled to cope, and I was very scared. My parents help me a lot. The second lockdown I was scared but not as bad as I was in the first. Project Search has not been easy, learning online but I really enjoyed when we got to go into college one day a week :)*



### 2020/2021 Project Search Interns



**Business Sessions -** We also have had guest speakers into speak to us during our time online. Some of them included Jai McDowall, BGT Winner and Amy Irons, BBC news presenter. Along with many more individuals and local businesses . These sessions have been very interesting and we learned what their job roles and previous job roles were and also found information about their own personal lives.

