

Kevin Ogbourne
Paralympic basketball coach



On Friday 18th May, we were visited by Kevin from 'Just Different' Kevin was born with spina bifida. When he was a child, he found things difficult but he tried his best to join in everything though he found sport quite difficult as it caused him lots of pain. He worked hard at learning and on leaving school became an electrical engineer. He was made supervisor for a number of people in the factory.

Five years ago, when Kevin was twenty two, he had to stop working as he could no longer walk and was in a great deal of pain. He had to begin using a wheelchair. He found this difficult at first but was determined that he was not going to let this affect him too much. He wanted to do the same things that everyone else did, just in a different way.

He showed us how he managed to lead as normal a life as possible. His house has been adapted so that he can be as independent as possible. He has a wet-room instead of a bathroom so that he can wheel himself in there. His kitchen units are lower than normal so that he can cook without hurting himself.

He likes to do his own shopping. Sometimes he has to go in and out of the shop several times!

Kevin decided that even though he was in a wheelchair, he still wanted to be involved in sport and joined a wheelchair basketball club. He learned how to play himself and competed at a high level. Now, he coaches both able and disabled people to play wheelchair basketball, proving that he can do anything that anyone can do ...just different!