

Sophie and Jason's Story

HOME AND LIVING

Sophie and Jason, who are now both in their thirties, first met as very young children at a hospital visit, but their true friendship began at Special Olympics when Sophie was 8 years old.

From that point onward, their friendship flourished, forged through shared laughter and mutual support. They trained at swimming together, played basketball together, and navigated the ups and downs of life side by side, all the while cultivating a bond through genuine friendship.

As they approached adulthood, their parents recognised the potential for independence and growth within their children. Encouraged by the idea of fostering independence, Sophie and Jason embarked on a new chapter of their lives as flatmates, supported by the Supported Living Fund (SLF). Robyn and Kerri, Sophie and Jason's mothers, meticulously planned the transition, ensuring that both young adults would have the necessary support and resources to thrive.

Planning for the move was a big task, it was important that everyone was on the same page before going ahead with everything. There were lots of decisions to make, like how many support workers to come in and at what time, how many hours they'd work. They had to find someone who would suit both Jase and Sophie. It was important to have people they liked and knew their moods. This was in the planning for a very long time.

The journey towards independence was not without its challenges. Collaborating with other families involved in the SLF program, Robyn and Kerri navigated logistical hurdles and coordinated support services tailored to their children's needs. Through meticulous planning and unwavering determination, they laid the groundwork for Sophie and Jason's transition to independent living.

Initially, their cohabitation followed a structured routine, with gradual steps towards increased independence. However, as they settled into their new home, unforeseen sparks ignited between Sophie and Jason. What began as a deep-rooted friendship blossomed into a romantic relationship, catching their families by surprise.

Despite occasional disagreements and differing personalities, Sophie and Jason still navigate the intricacies of their relationship with grace and open communication which is supported by dedicated support workers who provide guidance and encouragement.

>>> Their journey so far is a testament to the continued planning and support required in this type of venture, plus the relationships they have fostered within their wider community.



Sophie and Jason continue to grow both personally and as partners in their fun and exciting lives.

