

## Brave Conwy boy receives charitable donation to help with education

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A FORMER Pioneer [Child](#) of the Year has received a generous donation from a charity to help him with his education.

Brave Thomas Pearce, seven, who lives in Conwy with his mother and father and his younger brother Oliver, three, suffers from Pfeifer syndrome type two - a rare genetic disorder, which prevents further growth of the skull due to the fusion of certain bones, leading to delayed development and neurological problems.



*Thomas takes a photo of himself with his new iPad*

Due to his condition Thomas has undergone many operations and frequently has to miss lessons in his school, Ysgol San Sior, Llandudno.

To help him keep up with his peers and continue to develop to his full potential Thomas was put forward to receive an iPad from charity React.

His father Andy, 48, said: "Thomas misses school a lot so the iPad really helps him stay connected, he can access the Book club and Education City and it also means that he has games and activities to keep him entertained when he spends time in hospital and in waiting rooms."

Andy described Thomas as a "boisterous, sociable and confident" young man despite his difficulties and his frequent hospital visits and for a small boy Thomas has a huge lust for life.

He attends Beavers, goes swimming and enjoys gymnastics, as well as going on mountain walks with his [family](#), led by Andy - a self-employed adventure activity instructor, and learning to play piano from his mother Nicola, a music teacher and musician.

After winning Child of the Year 2013 in recognition of his bravery, a local martial arts academy also donated a gift of Karate lessons to Thomas who is now on his Orange belt.

Andy added: "When Thomas got the iPad he sent a thank you letter to the charity from the iPad along with a photograph of himself that he had taken on it.

"Our three year old naturally get's a bit upset sometimes when he can't play with it but Thomas is good at sharing and we just explain how it is for Thomas for school."

If you are caring for, or know of a child who may need React's help contact the team at: [react@reactcharity.org](mailto:react@reactcharity.org) or telephone 020 8940 2575.

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