

## **TRANSCRIPT: Diagnosis**

Harvey and Lydia were born at 25 weeks, so they were born three months early. They were a-pound-and-a-half when they were born and they weren't expected to live, but four/five weeks into their life in the premature baby unit we could see that there was hope and they started coming up to us one-by-one saying, 'Your two are going to live'.

One of the things that the medical profession doesn't do is to warn you what you face in life when you have a baby who they clearly know is gonna have special needs. And I'm glad that they didn't tell us because ignorance is bliss in some ways and if you can face these issues one-by-one when you're ready to face them, life's easier.

We knew that Harvey had had a bleed in his brain in his third day of life and they told us that. They didn't know what the ramifications of that necessarily would be but we knew something was wrong when Harvey couldn't crawl. He was pushing himself around on his back but he couldn't crawl on his front and we knew, by the age of three, that he wasn't going to walk and that also he was profoundly deaf.

Harvey's school would say that he has learning difficulties, we as parents are not so convinced. The learning difficulties are caused by the fact that he's deaf and that for the first three years of his life he didn't hear anything and so his speech and language is obviously delayed.