



"When I grow up I want to be like my dad...big and strong..."

My favourite thing is watching wrestling on telly...sometimes me and Liam watch the cage fighting...I want to be a cage fighter when I grow up...I practice on Shireen but she doesn't like it! (laughs). We sometimes do wrestling in the school playground - I get in to trouble but I don't care. My dad says that I need to know how to look after myself and I don't want the others calling me a wimp. They used to call me names like smelly and stinky, but they don't come near me now 'cos I stand up for myself. I can't be bothered to go to school and my dad says that I don't have to go if I don't want...it's all boring and it won't help me in real life. Sometimes my dad takes me on taxiing jobs to the airport instead of going to school and the people give me tips – it's great!

Sometimes I sneak out at night to meet my mate Danny and they don't notice that I have gone until ages after...my cousin works in the pizza takeaway and he passes us stuff out of the back door so me and Danny get a real feast!

I sneak back in the house when it's late and go up to my bedroom and I get away with it without anyone noticing. I once got caught though because me and Danny thought it would be fun to steal some of Liam's cider and we got drunk and forgot to go home. A police woman found us, took us home and gave my mum and dad a warning...

... they gave me what for the next day!

Sometimes at the weekend I stay at Danny's house and it is great. I like it there because they have nice beds with soft sheets on them – they all get a bed each and they don't have to share like we do. The first time that I stayed at Danny's I didn't know what was going on, when I woke up I thought that it was still night 'cos it was dark and I realised it was because they had curtains up at the bedroom windows....".

Lewis Evan's story

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