

TRANSCRIPT: Foetal Alcohol Syndrome

Foetal Alcohol Syndrome is one part of the whole spectrum of Foetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder but Jade has got Foetal Alcohol Syndrome, which is the most severe, the most complex, of all of them.

As the mother drinks alcohol through nine months, every organ that's growing at that time can be affected. So, each child is a designer baby because it depends how much mum's drunk or eaten and her lifestyle throughout those nine months. So I've got three children with Foetal Alcohol Syndrome. They're all very different.

Foetal Alcohol Syndrome presents as, sometimes a child that can be quite bright, sometimes not, but you've always got a child who has underlying difficulties that you can't see if you just look at a child. And the trouble with any child who isn't obviously disabled - I don't like the word normal, but if they 'look' like they're normal, and they can talk well, it makes them have an extremely invisible disability.