

React lifts Kara's quality of life

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BRAVE Kara Downie is leading the best life she can thanks to a group dedicated to helping.

Kara, 10, from Rhyl, was born with a rare brain disorder which has left her needing 24 hour care.

The youngster is totally dependent on her foster mother Caroline who become 'super efficient' at handling Kara's medical problems which include a total dependency on oxygen, cerebral palsy and epilepsy.

Kara's constant need for oxygen is not a problem at home but her outdoor supply lasts less than an hour which means the youngster is often confined to the house.

But thanks to React, a national charity which helps families with potentially ill children, Caroline has been given a £1,700 oxygen concentrator which provides a longer supply and can be fitted to the family's car.

Because the outdoor oxygen supply did not last long enough Kara missed out of social events and family gatherings and even had difficulty getting to hospital appointments which are more than an hour's drive.

Caroline said: "The oxygen concentrator was vital for Kara and



BATTLER – Kara Downie

myself, it would make an enormous difference to her quality of life and be of great benefit all round. We would be able to go out and about whenever, wherever and how ever long for. "Currently we can be confined to the house for days or weeks on end due to Kara requiring a large amount of oxygen. Without a doubt it will have a huge impact on her life and we can try and live as normal life as possible instead of having to be

cooped up in doors.

"We can't thank the charity enough for funding the concentrator. It will make such a big difference to me and Kara – we can now go places."

▪ **If you would like to help React help more children like Kara you can log on to their website www.reactcharity.org for all the ways you can help.**

To make a donation or to request further information you can contact the React team on 020 8940 2575.