



**Name:** Jake Harrison

**Age:** 16

**Time involved with the Garage:** 5 years

**Activities:** NT Connections projects, Youth Theatre Company, participant in 3 Garage summer productions

*“Every time I leave The Garage I feel sad, but I know I’m going to come back.”*

Jake started at the Garage 5 years ago as a participant in the NT Connections Time and the Fall project. He then went on to take part in other NT Connections projects, joined the Garage’s Youth Theatre Company last year and has taken part in 3 Garage summer productions. He’s played a really wide range of characters including Prince Charming in Vintage Cinders, Captain Hook and this summer he reinvented the Jungle Book’s Akela for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century, complete with hairy sideburns, funky dance moves and a sharp suit!

Jake described himself as a “*nervous kid*” when he first started at the Garage “*but through the years I’ve gained more confidence, made more friends and I’m happy to talk to people now.*” Jake’s tutors say that he is focussed, confident and committed - a great team player and fantastic role model for the younger participants who look up to him. He says that “*every member of staff is so friendly and they feel like family.*”

Jake is currently attending college in Gorleston where he’s studying drama at A Level. He wants to either go to drama college or study acting at university. He wants to make acting or directing his career and credits the Garage with helping him decide what he wants to do and supporting him to develop his skills and ambitions.

