

## Linh and her family



*Based on interviews with Linh, her mother and the head teacher*

Linh became paralysed last summer and has pain in her right leg. The pain started in the summer holiday and Linh is unable to stand or walk on her right leg. She can stand on her left leg. She likes school and being with her friends but she doesn't like having lunch at school. This is because Linh can't walk properly and this makes her feel shy. She can no longer play 'jump rope' with her friends at break time.

Since this happened Linh has become quiet at home and rarely talks with her parents and adults. However she still plays and talks with her friends who come to the house. Her favourite game is playing 'selling goods' with her friend Trinh. She also watches TV.

Linh is carried home for lunch every day even though the school provides lunch for the children. Linh's classmates kept asking her 'why can't you walk?' so she feels ashamed. She prefers to come home when she's not in class.

Linh's mother doesn't understand why she hasn't been given the doctor's referral to take Linh to the bigger hospital.