# Activity 1 - Case Study 1

Hien appears to be around 12 years old – he is not sure of his age and although he has not been fully assessed he probably has a degree of learning disability with some speech impediment that makes communicating with him a little more difficult. This also has the effect of making him rather isolated as the other children tend to ignore him or tease him.

Hien has not seen his parents since the earthquake. He was found at his school which had been partially destroyed by the earthquake, killing some of the students and teachers. Other students and teachers managed to get away and were dispersed by the time Hien was found by rescue workers, sitting in the rubble with minor injuries. After a brief stay in the hospital Hien was taken to an orphanage, which is being used to accommodate some of the UASC unable to be cared for by a family. He had no possessions when he arrived at the orphanage and he has been asking for his school bag, which he said he had in the hospital, but the nurse took it away as it was dirty and torn.

He appeared to be in shock for some time and spoke very little but has developed a good relationship with one of his carers. She has been able to obtain some information about his family: he lived with his mother and father and baby sister and grandmother. His father used to have a motorbike which he went to work on, but the motorbike stopped working and it seems his father stayed at home after that and sometimes drank beer and got angry. His mother went out to work every day – he is not sure what she does but once she came home from work with a bright pink dress for his baby sister – he was very jealous as he never got new clothes. His grandmother stayed home and looked after his baby sister – if his grandmother was sick, he had to stay at home and help but he preferred to go to school. He loves school and knows the names of his favourite teachers and even went to visit his class teacher once in her house. He used to get picked up for school in a minibus and drove a long way from home to get there.

His carer at the orphanage has worked with him to help him draw his home, which looks like it is an apartment in quite a large building. His description of the area has given some clues about where it might be – probably in a location rather badly affected by the earthquake, but there is no specific address.

The manager of the orphanage is resistant to any further intervention and has talked about moving the carer who has been working with Hien to another wing of the orphanage as every time the carer has been on duty and spent time with Hien, he has become very upset and angry afterwards, sometimes attacking other children and the manager feels that Hien should be left alone and not upset anymore.