



‘I’m just like you. I know how you feel. It’s okay. You’re part of Mirabel.’

Bella

Mirabel Alumni

Bella has never known her father’s name. Her mother died from a drug overdose when Bella was three. Her nan took her in and so Bella and her two older brothers became Mirabel kids. Now 19 years old, Bella feels a passionate debt to her nan and Mirabel.

At a recent Big Day Out, she was at Luna Park in a blue Mirabel shirt for the first time as a volunteer. She had made a pact with her younger self to never be ‘too cool’ to honour Mirabel and what the foundation has done for her. She loved now being the one who could say to younger, anxious Mirabel kids, ‘I’m just like you. I know how you feel. It’s okay. You’re part of Mirabel.’

‘As soon as I would tell them that, I could instantly see the anxiety just wash off their face,’ she said. ‘It was beautiful. You literally see the impact that Mirabel has on younger kids in front of your face and how that translates to adulthood as well.’

Through her childhood, Mirabel’s male leaders, led by Jules and Vaughn, were important for that father-shaped void in her life, she said. Even now, they can pull her out of darkness. Privately battling a potential relapse into an eating disorder this year, Bella said she only decided to choose health when they unexpectedly asked if she would consider being an ambassador for Mirabel.

‘I thought I can’t let these people down,’ she said. ‘I was directly making my life worse, which is the opposite of what Mirabel’s trying to do. So then that just completely turned me in the other direction, and I didn’t go down that path at all. Mirabel’s had such a positive impact in my life.’

