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The
Children's
Hospital
Charity*

BEAR FACTS 2021/22

The Children's Hospital Charity*

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The Charity Team would like to say a big thank you to the children and families featured in this edition of *Bear Facts*.



Hello, I'm Theo

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Sheffield Children's Hospital

Meet Olivia



Donations, sponsored runs, buying Theo Bears and everything in between helps thousands of children every year.

Olivia from Deepcar is one of those children, who was just fourteen weeks old when her parents took her for a routine weighing with a health visitor. Within two hours she was diagnosed with infant Acute Lymphoblastic Leukaemia, a condition which affects around 13 children in the UK every year.

Mum Samantha explains: *"We were supposed to be going to a swimming lesson, but instead we were sent for blood tests at Sheffield Children's. The floor fell out of our world, to say we were terrified doesn't even cover it."*

Olivia's condition is caused by a genetic mutation which releases immature white blood cells into the blood stream. It

requires immediate treatment, made even more difficult given Olivia's very young age.

Olivia began three rounds of chemotherapy on the Cancer and Leukaemia ward and received a bone marrow transplant.

Following her transplant, Olivia became seriously ill as the donated bone marrow was rejected and seen as a foreign entity proceeding to attack her body.

The life-threatening condition saw what was expected to be a six week stay following her transplant become six months. During that time, Olivia was nil-by-mouth for five months and relied on more than 60 blood and platelet transfusions to keep going.



Samantha added: *"The staff on the ward are incredible, we owe Olivia's life to them. You could see the pride they felt as she started walking for the first time, they feel it too as they've been there every step of the way."*

In March 2020, Olivia and her family rang the ward bell.

Samantha continues: *"It has been a whirlwind to watch her grow and an incredible privilege to see her reach those milestones, it makes our hearts burst. She is incredibly full of life and a very confident, loving, happy child and Olivia makes us proud with her determination every day."*

By the end of 2021, thanks to your support, the Charity will have fully funded a new Cancer and Leukaemia Ward.

Sheffield Children's is amazing

Our doctors and nurses at Sheffield Children's treat every condition imaginable, battling the most complex illnesses to save lives. They do this every day and every day we can make a difference for the hundreds of thousands of children who visit each year.

Did you know Sheffield Children's is one of three specialist standalone children's hospitals?

- 1 Sheffield Children's
- 2 Alder Hey
- 3 Great Ormond Street

Children and young people travel from all over the country and worldwide to Sheffield for ground-breaking medical treatment, making the hospital one of the nation's best for paediatric care and home to some of the UK's leading clinicians.



How much do you know about Sheffield Children's?

Our unique Embrace infant transport service transports children from as far as Canada and the Phillipines, flying 16,000km each year

Provides a range of child and adolescent mental health services

Home to highly specialised healthcare, and intensive care

Supports children through long-term conditions like cystic fibrosis

Becton School has a special robot which helps children unable to leave their rooms to still be part of their class

Children come from all over the UK for specialised treatment including Ehlers-Danlos Syndrome and Osteogenesis Imperfecta services.

We have a special Sleep House where families come for sleepovers so our specialists can measure everything from sleep patterns to breathing

Our surgeons train the theatre staff of tomorrow on keyhole surgery simulators with fun challenges like threading polo mints onto a single piece of string!

Is a Major Trauma Centre

We run a bike group to help children build confidence - which can be extra difficult for those with balance disorders

We have seven soundproof rooms in our hospital so our children can have specialist hearing assessments

We have some amazing machinery in neurosurgery, including a sat nav for the brain!

About us

Sheffield Children's NHS Foundation Trust is a specialist children's hospital, providing the best possible care for children all over Yorkshire, the UK and beyond.

The Children's Hospital Charity helps to ensure the ongoing needs of the hospital continue to be met. Donations and fundraising help to fund four key areas:

Specialist medical equipment

New facilities

A creative child-friendly environment

Vital research into the prevention and cure of childhood illness



Sheffield Children's has always depended on charitable support; by supporting us you are making a difference every day to the thousands of children and their families who visit. Charitable donations, fundraising and gifts from trusts help to ensure our doctors and nurses have exactly what they need, when they need it to deliver the best care for our patients.

Little things that make a big difference



Isolation Packs **£390**

These downloadable packs helped patients and families while isolating prior to treatment.

Gym Equipment **£1,300**

New gym equipment was funded for the Cystic Fibrosis Team. This included a computer and camera so the team could broadcast online workout sessions for patients to access, as well as provide an interactive and engaging way to encourage exercise at home.



Emergency Patient Clothing **£100**

The provision of these basic garments for Ward 3 will help to protect patients' dignity and make them feel more comfortable.

Play Team **£1,600**

Additional funding was provided for play equipment, arts and crafts for patients to have at their bedside to reduce social contact during the COVID 19 pandemic.



Artfelt Anywhere **£6,000**

Artfelt Anywhere used technology to fill the gap of not being able to deliver face-to-face workshops to children within Sheffield Children's. Organising short films by artists and musicians, it brought the joy of creativity in a safe way.



Parent Rooms **£20,000**

Thanks to support from The True Colours Trust, we have been able to revamp 2 x Parent Rooms, namely Wards 1 & 5. Ward 5 has received the most prominent works with a new entryway, comfy sofas, new white goods, new crockery and a complete refresh, featuring relaxing new artwork.

Specialist medical equipment

Donations help to fund specialist medical equipment from scanners to cameras, to tens machines and bedside monitors. Everything funded is above NHS provision and helps to ensure our hospital is at the forefront of paediatric care.

Here's an example of equipment purchased this last year by some of our key funding partners...



GI Mentor £47,000

This unique training system combines designated hardware and software to create a life-like sensation of real endoscopic procedures using authentic scopes and an adjustable 24" touch screen.

The system provides a realistic simulation of a wide variety of gastrointestinal diagnostic and therapeutic procedures with over 100 tasks and virtual patient cases.



GI Mentor was funded by Yorkshire Children's Hospital Fund & Embrace kit funded by The Swann Morton Foundation.

Embrace Training Equipment £6,800

Embrace is our highly specialist, round-the-clock transport service for critically ill infants and children. We funded a premature manikin to assist the team in their training needs. The specialist manikin helps the team practice advanced airway and life support skills that is realistic in babies up to 24 weeks old.

We also funded a VascularAccessChild Training System which is for central venous access on a simulated five year old child. This trainer allows medical professionals to train using real-time ultrasound guidance during catheter and vein access techniques.



COVID-19 FUNDING

£91,600 was raised by you and supported Sheffield Children's where it was needed it most. Here are some examples of how the funding was spent...

£540 iPad to enable the Chaplaincy Team to have video calls with families needing pastoral support.

£250 Calm Kits for patients at Becton's Sapphire Lodge, designed to ease anxiety or distress for young people.

£250 Pamper day and disco for Sapphire Lodge patients who were unable to go home at the weekends as they usually would.

£1,300 10x spirometers to monitor patients with serious respiratory conditions from home.

£700 Supermarket vouchers for families suffering hardship.

£300 10x weighing scales for Cystic Fibrosis patients, allowing them to be monitored from home.

£2,000 Art, craft and music activities were funded for patients and staff through Artfelt and the Play Team. Creative activities, meditative exercises and culture guides to online content helped encourage staff mental wellbeing during this difficult time.

£158,600 has been donated by NHS Charities Together, for staff & volunteers health & well-being initiatives in direct response to the Covid-19 Pandemic.

New facilities our appeal

In 2018 we launched an appeal to dramatically improve the facilities for patients and their families in three key areas within Sheffield Children's. Thank you to all who have supported our appeal so far; your support and donations mean we have already completed the first two stages of the appeal.

**Raised by September 2021
Over £7million**

INCLUDING:

- Safeguarding Support Unit **£1million** ✓
- Cancer and Leukemia Ward **£2.1million** ✓
- Helipad **£2.4million**
- Emergency Department **£400,000**



SAFEGUARDING SUPPORT UNIT **£1MILLION**

The first stage of the appeal funded a Safeguarding Support Unit, complete with innovative and interactive artwork. The service, which has been at Sheffield Children's since 2013, is now in a brand-new space, complete with

bigger rooms, specialist artwork and a unique space for play. The specialist facility has been sensitively developed as it supports children and young people where there have been safeguarding concerns. This includes patients with potential neglect or physical, sexual or emotional abuse, where specialist children's doctors are required.



Read about this on page 12

NEW CANCER & LEUKAEMIA WARD **£2.75million**

Thanks to the Bears of Sheffield and your support, we reached our target to transform the ward by the end of 2021. Our Oncology and Haematology department treats children from babies through to 19-year olds and is one of twenty principle treatment centres in the UK. We care for children with cancer and leukaemia as well as patients who have other blood problems such as bleeding and

inherited disorders. Together, we have created a new home from home for our patients, with space, privacy and natural light to make isolation a place of sanctuary and calm. Single patient rooms with en-suite facilities, give patients a place to make their own, with room for all their toys and space for a parent to sleep comfortably alongside them. The new ward benefits from



the welcoming views over Weston Park, with larger bed bays and more isolation rooms, increasing the ward footprint and expanding the space for children to play.



EMERGENCY DEPARTMENT **£4.5million**

Our ED sees up to 200 patients a day and numbers are expected to continue rising. Every condition imaginable is treated from a break or sprain to critical illnesses and brain injuries. We need to build a bigger and better department

with more resuscitation areas, dedicated space for patients with mental health issues, a safe place for autistic children, more amenities, an onsite GP and more treatment space for children who visit 24 hours a day.

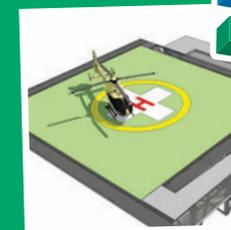


HELIPAD **£6million**

In an emergency transfer every second counts, so we want to build a helipad on the roof of Sheffield Children's to give every child the best chance.

Currently air ambulances have to land in Weston

Park opposite the hospital. Patients are brought across the road on a stretcher and this takes extra time. A helipad on the roof will help us to get patients to surgery as quickly as possible.





Artfelt

Artfelt is our charity funded arts programme which makes the clinical more comfortable by transforming our hospital's walls and spaces with bright art, helping children recover in an environment tailored to them.

The programme also provides workshops for youngsters as a distraction aid before an operation, or to break up long stays on the wards.

Artfelt
making hospital
feel better

Funded by The Children's Hospital Charity



ARTFELT PROJECTS

Drop Off Glazing

Artfelt was delighted to have worked with Morag Myerscough again to create an array of colour for the Main Entrance at Sheffield Children's. Having previously worked on the en-suite bedrooms in the new wing and painting a sculpture for the Bears of Sheffield, we commissioned Morag to enhance the entrance and provide a welcoming, playful experience for patients visiting our Western Bank site. It looks glorious in the sun!



Artfelt Sounds

Workshops continued to run with a series of virtual drumming workshops for young people at the Becton Centre. This involved a group of teenagers and staff learning to play together as a 'drumming circle', led virtually on a big TV screen by our music tutor Brian.

Lifts!

Making Sheffield Children's welcoming is at the centre of everything we do, this includes making lifts fun! Artfelt worked with the Facilities team and artist Tatiana Boyko to provide an engaging environment, creating an underwater themed lift which complements the 'worlds' already produced for Purple and Green lifts. We hope the lift is a talking point and acts as a distraction for children on their way to appointments or as a landmark when navigating the building.

Have you spotted our own Damien Hirst Butterfly Rainbow to show support for the NHS in the Coronavirus crisis?

Staff Ukulele Ambassador Programme

This is a virtual music programme, teaching hospital staff to learn to play the ukulele so they can help us fill our hospital with music, improve the environment and boost morale along the way.



Research

We are prouder than ever to support Sheffield Children's and wanted to tell you more about how together we fund research every year into the prevention and cure of childhood illnesses.

Here at Charity HQ with your donations, fundraising and everything in between, we fund up to £250,000 of research every year.

Here are a few of the latest studies...

A study to determine whether the way paracetamol is used in overweight and obese children is safe.

The development of an EiElectronic Tool for Clinicians, Teachers and Researchers in Child Abuse.

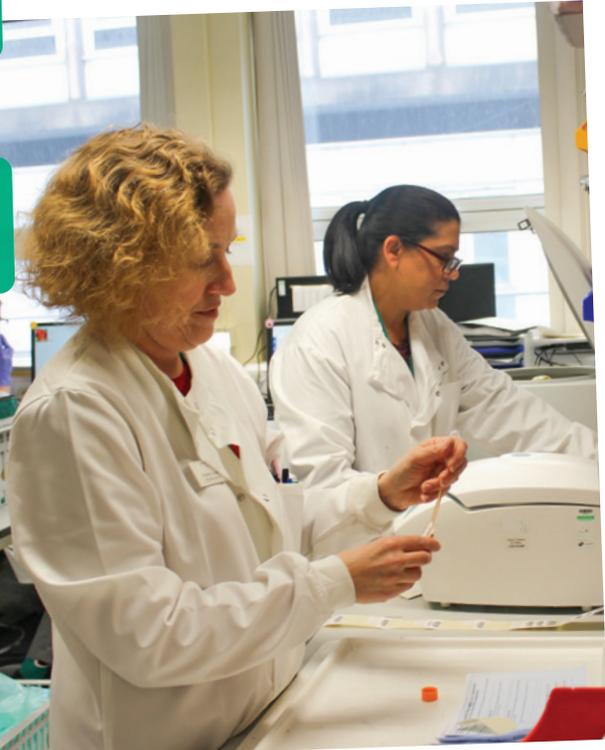
A study to explore the impact of a piano-based occupational therapy programme on hand function and quality of life in children and adolescents with cerebral palsy.

Research to examine whether robot-controlled, magnet-assisted capsule endoscopy is effective in children and cost effective.

The monitoring of children's physical activity following a diagnosis of childhood cancer.

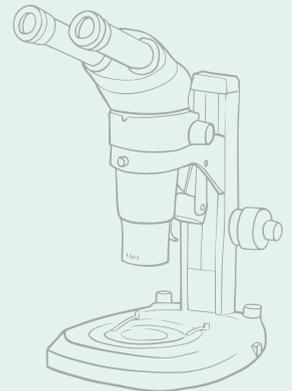
Developing a potential new drug to target Respiratory syncytial virus (RSV), reducing the severity of infections and the need for antibiotics.

A study to find out whether SightPlus, an advanced head-mounted digital low vision aid, can improve the vision and quality of life of children with a visual impairment.



Immersive VR project launches to help children diagnosed with rare muscle-wasting disease

This project is developing an immersive virtual reality platform to improve the physiotherapy of children living with Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy (DMD). DMD causes muscles to deteriorate and break down. It affects 2,500 children in the UK and there is currently no cure. Children with DMD are encouraged to undertake a daily stretching programme, however it can be difficult to maintain engagement and this can lead to complications, and a poorer long-term prognosis. The project, which is fully funded (over £53,000) by us, aims to develop fun, interactive immersive VR play scenarios that will help distract DMD-affected children from the discomfort in performing repeated exercises.



As part of the national response to COVID-19, Sheffield

Children's supported important research being led locally and nationally to understand more about the infection and its impact. Here are a few examples of the projects:

- Coronavirus Infection in Primary or Secondary Immunosuppressed Children
- WHO Clinical Characterisation Protocol for Severe Emerging Infection
- Randomised Evaluation of COVID-19 Therapy: the RECOVERY trial
- Psychological impact of the Coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic and experience: An international survey

Our colleagues at Sheffield Children's and across the NHS are amazing, they are working day and night to protect the public and we couldn't be prouder.

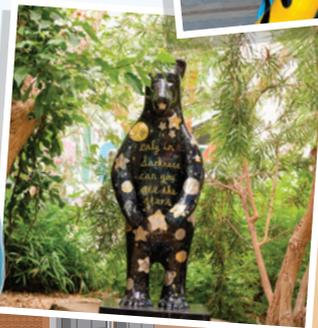
2021 was the summer of the Bears



The Bears of Sheffield brought together 100 Little Bears, decorated by talented children and young people of all ages from schools across the region, and 60 Big Bear sculptures brought to life by professional local and international artists. Not forgetting a very special Theo sculpture too, all in aid of raising much needed funds for Sheffield Children's.

The Bears were placed here, bear and everywhere across Sheffield, celebrating everything we love about our wonderful city. With the inspiration behind the bear theme for the trail coming from the well-known Sheffield bear in the Botanical Gardens bear pit and through charity mascot,

Theo, the Bears were taken into the hearts of all who visited them.



Sheffield Children's Hospital

Fundraising hall of fame!



Julie Bembridge ran a staggering continuous 100-mile ultra-marathon in just over 25 hours, raising over a whopping £22,000. Julie's epic challenge was for her son, Stan, who had received treatment on our Cancer and Leukaemia ward.



Irwin Mitchell raised over £40,000 through virtual quizzes, bear hunts, sponsored active challenges and various workplace fundraising activities. Absolutely amazing.

Tilly raised over £3,000 by scootering everyday for 30 days as part of our 30 in 30 virtual challenge. She wanted to raise money to say thank you for the care she has received in our Eye Department.

Thank you to everyone who raises money for us and supports our hospital, you are amazing.

"I read lots about the hospital raising money when I was finding the Bears of Sheffield over the summer. It mentioned about children spending time by themselves in the hospital, so I wanted to raise some money to help."



Caitlin walked 10 miles raising over £1,000.



How you can help!



There are lots of ways you can get involved and take your support for Sheffield Children's even further!

HERE ARE SOME IDEAS ON HOW YOU CAN JOIN TEAM THEO



FUNDRAISE

There are lots of great ways to fundraise from your home, in work, with a group or with your friends and family. From a sponsored step challenge, tuck shop to a bake sale and everything in between every pound raised makes a difference.

JOIN ONE OF OUR EVENTS

We've got something for everyone on our events calendar, now featuring virtual events too, so you can join in from anywhere!

VOLUNTEER FOR US

We couldn't do what we do without our volunteers! Our volunteers are part of the charity team. If you'd be interested in volunteering for us please get in touch.

DONATE £3 A MONTH

Giving a gift of £3 a month really does make a huge difference. By setting up your regular donation, you will change the lives of thousands of patients and their families who visit Sheffield Children's.

VISIT OUR SHOP

There are lots of things you can buy at the Charity Hub at Sheffield Children's or online on our website.



We're here for you!

Whether you fundraise, donate, become a volunteer or give a regular gift you will be making a difference for families & children through life-saving treatment.

A charity contact will help you every step of the way and together we can make a difference and support Sheffield Children's.



Contact us

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support@tchc.org.uk
for any queries you have

fundraising@tchc.org.uk
for any fundraising questions or tips

communications@tchc.org.uk
to share your stories with us

**The
Children's
Hospital
Charity***

Registered Charity No. 505002

**Thank
you!**



**Your support
changes lives at
Sheffield Children's**

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