

*for children whose
moments will be all too few*

We are really grateful for all the support we receive from so many people in the community, both young and old alike, who help us by raising money in a wide variety of innovative and imaginative ways.

Whether you're contemplating a pub crawl in fancy dress, a street collection, a grand ball, a darts marathon or you're simply looking for some fundraising ideas, we will provide you with helpful hints and guidelines to keep you on the right side of the law in relation to charity events. If you need a little more help and feel a chat about your project would be beneficial, then give the team in the Appeals Office a call, come and see us, and we'll do our best to help get your fundraising off the ground.

If you're one of the many people who has helped us in the past by making a fundraising idea become reality – thank you. If you're new to fundraising, but want to do something that will ultimately help the children of Derian House - welcome.

Together we can make a difference.

Derian House has an enviable reputation in setting new standards of excellence in children's hospice care. Indeed, much of the palliative and respite work initiated by Derian House since it opened in 1993 is now emulated throughout the UK. A visible testament to the high standards of treatment and care practiced at the hospice are the highly sought after places on its professional days, which seek to make Derian House care and support regimes available to other health care professionals throughout the region.

It is this reputation, not only for its treatment techniques, but also for its outstanding care system, which has led to its support of more than 300 families throughout the North West.

For further information about **Derian House Children's Hospice**, please contact the Appeals Office on **01257 271271**

Derian House Children's Hospice
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Registered Charity Number 1005165



*Making the most of
Every Moment...*



"Nothing can describe the ice-cold fear that numbed us at being told we were facing the very real prospect that our bright, beautiful little girl was going to die..."

... we make the most of every single moment

Derian House

Children's Hospice



... a Happy Place! 

It is impossible to imagine a parent's feelings and the emotional turmoil they must feel on being told their child's illness means they will never have the opportunity to experience those special events in their child's life that most of us take for granted.

For a parent, counting the milestones that chart their child's progress through life is one of the pleasures of parenthood, a joy to be expected rather than denied. But for the parents of a child diagnosed as terminally ill, counting time becomes an equally familiar reality, albeit one with an entirely different perspective. For them, their children's future is counted in smaller terms, sometimes in months or weeks, rather than years, in taking each day as it comes. For them, Derian House becomes an intrinsic part of that future.

... Whilst the lives of so many Derian House children may be cut tragically short, the hospice ensures they lead as full and normal a life as possible by offering them the optimum support to cope with their illness, along with the best possible medical care, and as much fun and laughter as they can pack into every single day.

The prospect of a children's hospice conjures up a myriad of expectations for a family visiting Derian House for the first time.

From a parent's perspective, that expectation is mixed with the fear and anger that goes with being told that their child will not survive an illness which initially they had every hope of overcoming - an illness which has taken over, not only the life of their child, but of their family. The concept of hospice care for their child is at once an unknown quantity and an intrusion into their lives as a family.

However, the reality is that Derian House ensures there is, without exception, a sense of relief, surprise and encouragement as they are presented with a support network that is driven entirely by their own requirements.

The doors of the hospice are open for referral to any family in the North West who feels that, as a family with a terminally ill or life threatened child, they would benefit from the care and support Derian House has to offer.

Since the concept of establishing Derian House began, the vision has always been that it should be a vibrant, happy place, a home from home, rather than simply an alternative to a hospital, that vision has certainly become a reality...

Despite its role, it's a place where life is for living, and where laughter and tears are to be found in equal measure. Visitors to the hospice are often surprised and moved by the strength of purpose and determination shown by children and young people who, in many cases, know they have a limited amount of time left with their families...

We are currently supporting more than 250 families who have a child with a terminal or life threatening illness, and a further 200 receiving bereavement support.

For them Derian House is a lifeline in helping them cope with the highs and lows of their child's illness, and its aftermath.

The high level of specialised care and support our families need will cost in excess of £1.65 million this year, and with just 5 weeks funding available from central government, we are faced with the daunting prospect of having to raise virtually the whole amount through our own efforts, and the generosity of our friends in the community.

That is why we are asking for **YOUR** help to raise the additional funds we so desperately need



Because for many, with no clear idea of how much time together they have left, every second is precious, and with that in mind we ensure that...



we make the most of every single moment

