



Metro Mayor Andy Burnham launches MedEquip4Kids Hummingbird Project



Over 60 guests, including children's mental health professionals, teachers, charity supporters, and representatives from local media and the business community attended the launch at the Virgin Money Lounge in the centre of Manchester to find out more about our exciting new Hummingbird Project.

The project, developed by MedEquip4Kids in partnership with the University of Bolton, will support young people's mental health by providing emotional wellbeing training in schools across the North West, using the concepts of Positive Psychology such as grit, growth mindsets and identifying unique strengths. It will be delivered by a project worker as well as young people with lived experience of mental health problems.



Andy Burnham said: "There's a growing call from young people for more support with their own mental health and wellbeing, their own resilience, to navigate what is out there an increasingly challenging world. That's why the Hummingbird Project is so right, so of the moment. It's really answering the call coming from young people."



To receive regular updates on the new Hummingbird Project, email info@medequip4kids.org.uk to join our mailing list.

We did it!

Royal Oldham's ultrasound unit gets colourful makeover

Children undergoing ultrasound scans at Royal Oldham Hospital will now find themselves in a calming and softly lit room with balloons 'floating' by designed and installed by Lime Arts. We were able to complete this project thanks to a donation from Simply Health and a '999 Battle of the Badges' event organised by NWS paramedic Stephen Poole.



Ten years of supporting

Firwood School For the last ten years we've provided equipment for Firwood School, a specialist school for disabled children in Bolton, including several walking frames and learning stations.



New screen offers privacy for young patients

As part of our Manchester Appeal to fund equipment for emergency treatment and support of victims after the Manchester Arena attack, we provided an aquarium-decorated folding screen to create privacy, distraction and a more pleasant environment for young patients at the UHSM Paediatric Emergency Department. The Manchester Appeal is still open for donations.



New equipment for poorly babies at UHSM

Pre-term and poorly babies at the University Hospital of South Manchester's neo natal unit will now have their blood oxygen measured with new pulse oximeters and receive respiration support from a new Fabian Therapy system when their levels drop. A new Bilisoft blanket will allow babies to have parental contact while being treated for jaundice or enable a phototherapy lamp to be used at the same time in severe cases.



Thanks to the Zochonis Charitable Trust, the Association of Former Manchester United Players, Irwin Mitchell, and staff from the hospital for their support.

Leaving a gift to a charity in your Will is one of the most wonderful and significant ways you can continue to transform the lives of others beyond your lifetime. These gifts can help us to fund medical equipment for hospitals, giving every child a better chance of recovery. To discuss leaving a legacy to MedEquip4Kids, please call us on 0161 798 1600.



We need your help!

A calming space for kids awaiting treatment

The sensory room in the children's unit at North Manchester General Hospital needs updating with equipment including a bubble tube, colour wheel projector, and musical cushion. Play specialist Karen Thompson says: "The sensory room helps calm children down after an invasive procedure, helps children with mental health issues feel calm, and gives them time and a place to think."



Heart monitors for babies at Royal Bolton

The neo natal unit at Royal Bolton Hospital is in need of another cardiac monitor for its special care unit. This will be used to care for newborn babies who have recovered enough to leave the intensive care unit, but still require further cardiac monitoring.

Support for children with respiratory distress this winter

When children have severe chest infections, asthma or bronchiolitis they often require supplementary oxygen. In winter more children need care for respiratory conditions, meaning the demand for essential equipment increases. The paediatric unit at Macclesfield District General Hospital need two new Airvo Optiflow Systems to ensure effective treatment is readily available. The system features a humidifier which comfortably delivers high flows of air/oxygen mixtures, but is less intensive than other respiratory support systems.



Oliver Brown

was born seven weeks early at Royal Albert Edward Infirmary weighing just 4lbs 4oz. Oliver spent his first two days in the Intensive Care Unit where he needed a CPAP (continuous positive airway pressure) machine to help him breathe, after which he was transferred to the High Dependency Unit. For a while he was also in an incubator as his temperature kept dropping and he was jaundiced.

For three weeks, Oliver received excellent round-the-clock neo natal care. He's now growing up to be a healthy, happy little boy. His mum Louisa says: "The nursing staff were absolutely brilliant. I couldn't praise the whole unit enough. Thank you to MedEquip4Kids for all the equipment you've funded in Wigan."



If you can help us fund any of these projects, visit www.medequip4kids.org.uk

Fundraising news

Thank you to all our corporate and community partners

Greenenergy for giving us an amazing donation of **£12,000** to support children's healthcare. We are really grateful for their support, which will make a positive difference to so many children's lives.

High Legh Park Golf Club (pictured) for raising over **£10,000** at their golf day as part of their Charity of the Year support

Sports England for a grant of **£2,383** from their Small Grants Programme to provide football frames for young players with cerebral palsy

The DM Thomas Foundation for Young People for **£1,250** towards CAMHS resources in Lancashire

Cheshire Community Foundation for a grant of **£1,407.48** for paediatric continence equipment in Macclesfield

The Vernon Building Society Jubilee Fund for raising **£388.26** for our work in Stockport

Liquidlogic for raising **£360** from their dress down day with matched funds

Sainsbury's Local Cross Street for adopting us as their Charity of the Year

Jarden for their gifts in kind, Christmas jumper day and individual donations

Las Iguanas for selecting us for their Christmas Toy Appeal

Tesco, John Lewis and The Co-Op who have all accepted us for their Community Matters Schemes

Selection Healthcare for their support of our work with CAMHS



Jack and Will take on a muddy challenge in memory of Arthur Thorniley

We were very sad to hear that one of our most dedicated supporters, Arthur George Thorniley, passed away this year aged 85. Arthur was involved with MedEquip4Kids for over 15 years and raised over £36,000 for us – a truly incredible contribution. Arthur's young neighbours, Jack and Will Potter, wanted to raise some funds for his favourite charity in his memory, and in September they completed the "Mini Mudder" challenge, a 1-mile obstacle course mud run. Thank you Jack and Will for your support.

Have you had the chance to check out our new website yet?

www.medequip4kids.org.uk

The new site features current news and stories of children in hospitals we've supported, and all the latest information about our projects, activities and events.

Earlier this year MedEquip4Kids moved to new premises. Our new address is: MedEquip4Kids Appeals Office, 90 Deansgate, Manchester, M3 2GP

FREEDOM FUNDRAISING

There are thousands of events happening all over the country. Why not set yourself a challenge and do something amazing for children in hospitals and services around our region.

More information:

www.medequip4kids.org.uk



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