



New physiotherapy chairs support critical care recovery

Thanks to funding from VINCI Construction UK, new specialist treatment chairs are benefiting the critical care unit at Royal Preston Hospital, which has been under increased pressure recently due to a resurgence in COVID-19 cases in Lancashire. The chairs are used by multiple patients daily for rehabilitation and recovery with the physiotherapy team and have significant benefits for wellbeing and recuperation.

The team told us: “The chairs are a new vital resource for the therapy team and nursing staff to be able to safely and comfortably sit extremely complex, dependant, critical care patients out of bed. The chairs allow us to begin the patient’s rehabilitation journey by providing appropriate postural support at the same time as pressure relief to allow the patient to build the muscle strength to hold themselves up against gravity. This allows them to begin to interact with their environment in a more normal way, enabling them to participate in meaningful activities such as meal times and activities of daily living.”

We did it!

Paige gets comfort from new bed after surgery

Thanks to funding from Medicash Charity, we were able to provide an Acheeva Graduate Bed for Foxfield School in Birkenhead. The bed allows physically disabled pupils to work in a supported, balanced lying posture, giving them relief from sitting in a wheelchair all day. The height and angle can be adjusted so that the child is at the same level as their classmates.

One of the pupils benefiting from the new bed is 15-year-old Paige Standen, who returned to Foxfield School six weeks after her spinal surgery. Paige is registered blind, has seizures and global developmental delay. She is also non-verbal and wheelchair-dependent. Paige needed surgery for her scoliosis, a condition which results in an S-shaped curve in the spine. She now has two titanium rods and numerous screws to straighten her up.

Paige's mum Michelle says: "As you can see, she is a true teenager who loves to chill. The Acheeva is providing her and many other children with the opportunity to chill in comfort whilst interacting if they wish to."



AccuVein AV400 improves care at Royal Preston



A grant from the Hick Charitable Trust helped us to fund an AccuVein AV400 device for the children's clinic at Royal Preston Hospital. The AccuVein AV400 device illuminates children's veins below the skin, making them easier to find and reducing stress and pain for the child. Pictured are Nicola Entwistle (left) and Rudo Kupera (right) with the new equipment. The team told us: "This is going to be such a useful addition to our equipment as it will make it easier to see the small veins and thereby make the process a lot gentler on our little patients."

New sensory unit creates calming space

We have delivered another two Sensory Voyagers to the children's outpatients department at Fairfield General Hospital in Bury. The mobile sensory units include a waterless bubble tube, UV fibre optic strands and a projector wheel to create lighting effects and images. Play specialist Angela O'Neill says: "We think they are amazing and can't wait to start using them with our patients. They will provide much needed sensory play and will benefit our patients so much."

We need your help!

Creative kits for better mental health Last year we delivered packages of creative and therapeutic resources worth up to £1,000 to more than 40 Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS) teams nationwide. These included paints, pens, arts and crafts materials, toys and props for role-playing, feelings cards, games and more. As the pandemic continues to affect young people's mental health and wellbeing, we will be continuing to equip CAMHS throughout 2021.

Wireless monitor enables safer births in Warrington



Warrington Hospital's birth centre needs an additional mobile telemetry unit, which is used to monitor the baby's heart during birth. The wireless unit gives the mother more mobility during labour, reducing her perception of pain and aiding the natural birth process. Our fabulous young fundraisers Ruben and Elena Evans-Guillen are helping us to raise money with their 100 Acts of Kindness "Be a Good Egg for the NHS" campaign. The twins recently took part in activities such as a Rainbow Scavenger Hunt to clean up their local park.



Acheeva Bed supports pupils at Lancasterian School

This lovely thank you card is from Lancasterian School in South Manchester, which caters for children with special needs. We provided them with an Acheeva Bed like the one pictured on the opposite page. Deputy head teacher Kira Bühler says: "Several pupils in the class use the bed as part of their postural management program and it has been absolutely invaluable." The school would like another Acheeva Bed so that other pupils can benefit from a more comfortable learning experience.



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

Fundraising news

Thanks to:

- The B&Q Foundation are funding hand-painted murals for Ormskirk and District General Hospital. The murals will brighten up the children's units at the hospital, creating an inviting and family friendly environment.
- Morrison's Foundation has donated £13,500 to fund resources to support Children and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS).
- The Charities Aid Foundation (CAF) has awarded us a grant to support our Hummingbird Project in schools.



Image by Tony Worrell Photography

Coin collections continue in 2021

Thank you so much to all the volunteers who have been helping us count coins from the Trafford Centre's fountains, which has raised £3,000 for MedEquip4Kids so far.

We are still in need of volunteers to help out during the year.

For more information visit www.medequip4kids.org.uk.

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. For more information call 0161 798 1600



Dates for your diary

Join our run team

- Sunday 26th September - Great Manchester Run 10k
- Sunday 3rd October - Virgin London Marathon

You can also take on your own challenge for MedEquip4Kids

- a yoga-thon
- walk 3km every day in May
- hold a garden party (when rules allow)
- or cycle the Trans Pennine Trail in fancy dress!
Be as adventurous or creative as you like!

Just choose your challenge and get in touch with us for a fundraising pack.

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