

Rainbows is
here for you



If you are reading this, it is likely you know someone who has been diagnosed with a 'life-limiting condition'. This is a term which means the child's or young person's life will be shortened or they have a terminal illness and they are not expected to live far into adulthood. Many of these medical conditions continue over many years and get steadily worse.

What is a hospice for
children and young people?

A children and young people's hospice offers children, young people and their families the chance to build memories as a family. The hospice will support you to face emotional and physical challenges while allowing you to make the most of life.

It provides nursing and medical care that can help to relieve distressing symptoms caused by the child's or young person's condition. Care is offered for the whole family at the end of the child's or young person's life and while you are grieving.

When a diagnosis is given, families often feel very isolated and emotionally drained. Hospices provide short breaks (a few days away from home), tailored nursing care for each child, emergency and end-of-life care and bereavement support. It will provide a range of specialist services which can benefit the children and young people themselves and the wider family. These services are simply not available anywhere else.

"Rainbows is such a happy place. Edward loves his short breaks there and it gives me time for a rest."

Gemma, Edward's mummy

rainbows
hospice for children and young people

"At Rainbows we laugh, we play, but above all we can make every single moment count."

Lisa, a nurse at Rainbows



Rainbows Hospice

for Children and Young People

We are based at the edge of Loughborough, in Leicestershire. We are the only hospice for children and young people in the East Midlands and we provide our services free of charge.

At Rainbows, we are always warm and welcoming. We have a wonderful building with 14 bedrooms, family rooms, beautiful gardens and other facilities like a state-of-the-art hydrotherapy pool, multi-sensory room, soft-play room and a cinema.

Care at Rainbows

We offer individual care to children, young people and families to meet their particular needs. This care can include the following:

- a. Medical care needs which include managing pain and controlling symptoms, highly specialised clinical and emergency palliative care (any care that alleviates symptoms). We have an experienced team of nurses including specialists for respiratory and palliative care. Our clinical staff will assess conditions, give and manage medicines, maintain ventilators, and use treatments when appropriate.
- b. Physical care needs such as washing, dressing and feeding. We have therapy specialists in play and social activities, music, aromatherapy, relaxation techniques, massage therapy and activities in the hydrotherapy pool.
- c. Emotional and psychological care needs of the child or young person and their family. A named person will provide advice and support to the family and child or young person. We also provide support over the phone 365 days a year.
- d. Social care needs include having team members who provide support to other children in the family, as well as groups and activities for parents, children and young people.
- e. Cultural care needs covers your individual and cultural needs whether in terms of the type of care, dietary needs or support in your own language.
- f. Spiritual care needs means we respect all faiths and beliefs. We will work with families to make sure that your beliefs, spiritual and cultural needs are valued and supported.

We have a team of specialist doctors providing 24-hour advice. Care at the hospice is managed by nurses and the standards of care are set by the Department of Health (Health & Social Care Act 2008). We are regulated and monitored by the Care Quality Commission, England.

Support in your home and in the community

You do not need to come and stay at Rainbows to benefit from our services. We can also support you in your home as part of our outreach activities. These activities include parents' groups, young people's support groups, sibling activities (for the brothers and sisters of the child) and trips. You can also visit us for day-care facilities or for appointments with a doctor or a clinical nurse specialist who will have time to spend focusing on your child's needs.

Rainbows is a place for living where our dedicated team of staff provide care and support so that you can create happy memories.



Rainbows Hospice

Referring a child or young person to Rainbows

- Anyone involved with the child or young person, including the family themselves, can make a referral to Rainbows.
- Following a referral, we will get all the information we need from the relevant doctor and consultant.
- Shortly afterwards, one of our nurses will visit you to tell you about Rainbows and learn more about the child or young person.
- Our admissions panel review all referrals each month. We will let you know as soon as we have made a decision.
- Emergency referrals for palliative or end-of-life care can be made at any time and we handle them as urgent cases. We do everything we can to respond very quickly.

To find out more about the work we do at Rainbows and the services we provide, please contact Family Support on 01509 638 000. We will be happy to give you all the information you need.

Phone: 01509 638 000

Fax: 01509 216 472

Website: www.rainbows.co.uk

Email: administration@rainbows.co.uk

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