

**Charitable organisations, benevolent funds and trusts who may be able to help children with disabilities and long-term health conditions**



	Equipment	Car Seats	Sensory Equipment	Therapy/assessments	Home adaptations	Garden works	White goods	Household Furniture	Flooring	Hospital costs	Holidays	Respite	Buggies /Wheelchairs / Trikes /Bikes /Mobility Aids	Vehicle adaptations
The Act Foundation	✓	✓	✓									✓		✓
The Boparan Charitable Trust	✓	✓	✓	✓									✓	
Caudwell Children	✓	✓	✓	✓							✓		✓	
Children Today	✓	✓	✓										✓	
The Elifar Foundation	✓	✓	✓								✓		✓	
Family Fund	✓					✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Florence Nightingale Aid in Sickness Trust	✓	✓	✓				✓					✓	✓	
The Hospital Saturday Fund	✓			✓	✓				✓				✓	✓
Independence at Home	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓		✓	✓
The League of the Helping Hand	✓	✓	✓				✓	✓	✓	✓		✓		
Lifeline 4 Kids	✓	✓	✓										✓	
Newlife	✓	✓	✓										✓	
Promise Dreams	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓			✓		✓		✓	
React	✓	✓	✓				✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	
Roald Dahl's Marvellous Children's Charity	✓	✓	✓	✓			✓	✓		✓			✓	
Sullivan's Heroes					✓	✓			✓					
Variety	✓	✓	✓										✓	
WellChild					✓	✓								



The Act Foundation provide grants to support people living on low incomes who have a physical and/or mental disability to aid health and wellbeing, independent living at home, respite and transition. Priority will be given to those on the lowest incomes with the greatest need. Maximum grant value: £2500.

Will consider funding	Will not consider funding
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Specialised seating and car seats</li><li>• Specialised beds and sleep systems</li><li>• Sensory toys and equipment</li><li>• Respite breaks for applicants or their carers at a registered centre</li><li>• Vehicle adaptations</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Equipment or work for which there is statutory funding available</li><li>• Technology such as laptops, tablet computers or phones</li><li>• Building works (including DFG shortfalls)</li><li>• Garden works</li><li>• Ordinary domestic items (e.g. flooring, white goods, furniture, clothing)</li><li>• Holidays</li><li>• Retrospective funding (e.g. where goods have already been purchased or ordered and a deposit paid)</li><li>• Deposits for vehicles</li></ul>

**How to apply:**

- Application form to be completed and posted to the ACT foundation, along with supporting letter from medical professional and quotations

**Timescales:**

- Decision on grant application is normally made within 3 months of receipt of application.
- Applicants can apply once within a 12 month period
- Trustees meet four times a year, meeting dates are not published however procedures exist to give approvals between meeting dates.



Helping little stars shine bright

The Boparan Charitable Trust aims to help children and young people up to the age of 18, throughout the UK, who are disadvantaged either through poverty, disability or life-limiting conditions. Maximum grant award of £1500 for Trikes and £1000 for Sensory Items.

Will consider funding	Will not consider funding (unless in exceptional circumstances)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Speech and language therapy</li> <li>• Trikes</li> <li>• Specialist trikes</li> <li>• Buggies</li> <li>• Manual wheelchairs</li> <li>• Powered wheelchairs</li> <li>• Sensory toys</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ongoing appeals, treatments &amp; therapies</li> <li>• Holidays/ short break programmes</li> <li>• Reimbursements of funds already paid out</li> <li>• Accommodation costs</li> <li>• Travelling costs</li> <li>• Lease or purchase of cars</li> <li>• Home Adaptations/ Renovations</li> <li>• Garden Equipment/ Sheds</li> <li>• Non-sensory toy's, Computer consoles, PC's, Laptops or tablets, televisions/DVD players</li> </ul>

#### How to apply:

- Application form to be completed and posted to the Boparan Charitable Trust, along with supporting letter from medical professional and quotations

#### Timescales:

- Decision on grant application is normally made within 14 days of receipt of application.



Caudwell Children provide family support services, equipment, treatment and therapies for disabled children and their families across the UK. Caudwell Children provide a maximum of 70% of the funds required for equipment under £5,000 and a maximum of 80% of the funds required for equipment over £5,000.

Will consider funding	Will not consider funding
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Bespoke multi-purpose powered wheelchairs</li><li>• Specialised mobility buggies</li><li>• Bespoke therapy tricycles</li><li>• Specialised car seats</li><li>• Sensory equipment</li><li>• Short breaks</li><li>• Specialist Cancer Treatments (Not available in UK)</li><li>• Fundraising to cover the cost of treatments &amp; rehabilitation</li><li>• One-off donations towards treatment costs</li><li>• Therapy: Cerebral Palsy &amp; Brain Related Disorders</li><li>• Treatment: Selective dorsal rhizotomy</li><li>• Specialised disability sports equipment</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Refurbishment costs</li><li>• Household appliances</li></ul>

#### How to apply:

- Online application forms
- Application supported by medical professional

#### Timescales

- Decision on grant application is made within 1-6 months of receipt of application, depending on the complexity of the request



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Children Today help children and young people with disabilities up to the age of 25 years old across the UK by providing grants for specialised equipment.

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Will consider funding	Will not consider funding
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Electric wheelchairs and wheelchair power packs</li><li>• Walking aids</li><li>• Adapted trikes</li><li>• Adapted car seats</li><li>• Lifting aids/hoists to enable movement</li><li>• Posturepedic sleep equipment / weighted blankets</li><li>• Sensory equipment including bubble tubes</li><li>• Specialist seating</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Holidays</li><li>• ipads</li><li>• Laptops</li><li>• Communication equipment</li></ul>

**How to apply:**

- Application form to be completed and posted to Children Today, along with supporting letter from medical professional and quotations

**Timescales:**

- Decision on grant application is made within 4 months of receipt of application



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The Elifar Foundation provide grants to help children and young people up to the age of 28 years old with severe learning difficulty and associated physical disability.

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Will consider funding	Will not consider funding
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Manual and powered wheelchairs</li><li>• Other mobility aids</li><li>• Specialised seating and car seats</li><li>• Specialised beds and sleep systems</li><li>• Specialised trikes</li><li>• Specialised holidays</li><li>• Sensory toys and equipment, room padding</li><li>• Communication aids, specialised software</li><li>• Hoists</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Items or work for which there is Statutory Funding</li><li>• Building or garden works</li><li>• Ordinary computers/ laptops/ iPads</li><li>• Ordinary domestic items (e.g. furniture, flooring, white goods, clothing)</li><li>• Ordinary or family holidays</li><li>• Therapies</li><li>• Mobility scooters</li><li>• Goods already purchased, for deposits paid, or goods already on order</li></ul>

**How to apply:**

- Application form to be completed and posted or emailed to the Elifar Foundation along with supporting letter from medical professional and quotations

**Timescales:**

- Trustees meet regularly to assess applications
- Elifar confirm safe receipt of the application within 7 days



# Family Fund

## Helping disabled children

The Family Fund help families across the UK who are raising a disabled or seriously ill child or young person aged 17 or under. Families can apply every 12 months, and professionals can submit urgent referrals for children in hospital.

Will consider funding	Will not consider funding
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Short breaks, days out and travel insurance</li><li>• Sensory toys and equipment</li><li>• Clothing</li><li>• Tablets and computers</li><li>• Games consoles</li><li>• Kitchen appliances</li><li>• Garden improvements</li><li>• Specialist bikes and tricycles</li><li>• Driving starting costs for young people (e.g., learning materials, provisional license)</li><li>• A pet</li><li>• Outdoor play equipment</li><li>• Travel costs</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• A car or other vehicle</li><li>• driving lessons</li><li>• Items already purchased</li><li>• Requests where a statutory agency (such as local authorities or health services) has assessed a need and have a responsibility to provide the item.</li></ul>

### How to apply:

- Application form to be completed by family and posted to the Family Fund.
- For Urgent applications a professional intermediary will need to pre-notify the Family Fund, then email or fax the application to them.

### Timescales:

- First time applications by families can take up to 3-4 months to process
- 8-10 weeks average wait for non-first time applications by families
- Urgent referrals from professional intermediaries are usually addressed within 24-48 hours



## Florence Nightingale Aid in Sickness Trust



The Florence Nightingale Aid in Sickness Trust provides life enhancing grants to help people of all ages in need who are ill, convalescent or disabled. These grants are used to provide medical and household aids to alleviate sickness and make a huge difference to people's ability to manage at home and live independently.

Will consider funding	Will not consider funding
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Medical equipment</li><li>• Riser/recliner chairs</li><li>• Manual wheelchairs</li><li>• Orthopaedic mattresses</li><li>• Washing machines</li><li>• Mobile hoists</li><li>• Sensory equipment</li><li>• Communication aids and specialist software</li><li>• Refrigerators for essential drug storage</li><li>• Secure drug cabinets</li><li>• Convalescent and respite care</li><li>• Specialist mobile phones</li><li>• Telephone installation</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• House decorating and adaptations</li><li>• Car purchase or car adaptations</li><li>• Holidays</li><li>• Carer's breaks</li><li>• Nursing home fees</li><li>• Financial assistance</li><li>• Debts</li><li>• General clothing</li><li>• General house furnishings</li><li>• Stairlifts</li></ul>

### How to apply:

- Application form can be downloaded from website. Application form to be completed by a professional on the child's behalf, then posted to The Florence Nightingale Aid in Sickness Trust

### Timescales:

- Smaller grants, such as those for respite/convalescence and white goods are reviewed daily. Larger item requests are reviewed at bi-monthly meetings.



# The Hospital Saturday Fund

The Hospital Saturday Fund aims are to provide assistance through its charitable funds for: Individuals with a medical condition or disability who would benefit from assistance with the purchase of specialised equipment or from practical forms of treatment. The maximum grant is £2500

Will consider funding	Will not consider funding
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Wheelchairs</li><li>• Mobility Scooters</li><li>• Car adaptations.</li><li>• Hearing Aids, Nebulisers, Specialised Vision Aids.</li><li>• Therapies and treatments</li><li>• Orthopaedic beds, Mattresses or Pillows,</li><li>• Riser /recliners chairs,</li><li>• Lift hoist/aids, stair lifts.</li><li>• Walk in showers, Accessibility adaptations to bathrooms, Access ramps, Non-slip flooring,</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Financial assistance</li><li>• Transport costs to hospitals/clinics,</li><li>• Private hospital admission or treatment</li><li>• Experimental drugs/medication (those not recommended by N.I.C.E),</li><li>• Purchase of a car, driving lessons</li><li>• Building works to either inside or outside of the home, painting, decorating, any gardening works,</li><li>• New furniture or replacing existing furnishings, New or replacement carpets, electrical household goods</li><li>• Holidays/trips abroad</li><li>• Treatment outside the UK and Ireland.</li></ul>

## How to apply:

- A professional intermediary needs to apply on behalf of the applicant using the online application form. Supporting evidence (e.g., medical supporting letter or report) should be submitted alongside the application.

## Timescales:

- Meetings to discuss grant applications are held every 3 months



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Independence at Home provides grants to people of all ages who have a physical or learning disability or long term illness and who are in financial need.

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Will consider funding	Will not consider funding
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Mobility and travel equipment</li><li>• Special disability equipment</li><li>• Home and garden adaptations</li><li>• Communication equipment</li><li>• Home repairs</li><li>• Kitchen equipment (e.g., white goods)</li><li>• Beds and bedding</li><li>• General furnishings</li><li>• Heating costs</li><li>• Holidays (for certain neurological conditions)</li><li>• Therapeutic toys</li><li>• Play equipment</li><li>• Vehicle adaptations</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Medical treatment or therapies</li><li>• Televisions or licences</li><li>• Purchase of motor vehicles</li></ul>

**How to apply:**

- A professional intermediary needs to apply on behalf of the applicant using the online application form. Supporting evidence (e.g., medical supporting letter or report) should be submitted alongside the application.

**Timescales:**

- Decisions usually made within one working week.



# The League of the Helping Hand

Life + Help = Hope

The League of the Helping Hand helps those who are living on a very low income, receiving the appropriate welfare benefits and who have exhausted all other funding sources. They provide help to people with physical and diagnosed mental health conditions, learning disabilities and people caring for an adult or child with a disability.

Will consider funding	Will not consider funding
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• White goods</li><li>• Furniture</li><li>• Carpets</li><li>• Specialist equipment not available from statutory agencies</li><li>• Regular and ongoing financial assistance</li><li>• Carers breaks</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• computers or IT equipment (except for blind or housebound applicants)</li></ul>

## How to apply:

- A professional intermediary needs to apply on behalf of the applicant using the application form, which is posted to the League of the Helping Hand

## Timescales:

- The League of the Helping Hand aims to respond to applications within 4 weeks.



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Lifeline4Kids provide equipment to help improve the quality of life for children with disabilities and special needs.

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Will consider funding	Will not consider funding
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• electric wheelchairs</li><li>• mobility aids</li><li>• items including specialised computers and sensory toys.</li><li>• iPads (under specific circumstances)</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Therapy, treatment or assessment costs.</li><li>• Building, home improvement or garden works (including fencing)</li><li>• Carpets/floor covering</li><li>• Outside garden equipment such as trampolines</li><li>• Furniture (unless specialised)</li><li>• Ovens/Cookers</li><li>• Refrigerators (unless for medical needs),</li><li>• Washing Machines (unless for medical needs, i.e. incontinence)</li><li>• Clothing</li><li>• Shoes (unless specialist)</li><li>• Child care costs, tuition/school lessons or fees</li><li>• Vehicles, Transport Costs, Driving Lessons</li><li>• Recreational activities or Holidays</li></ul>

#### How to apply:

- Submit information via email to Lifeline4Kids about the child, their diagnosis and your request to register interest in a grant. Life4Kids will then send the application form to you, the application requires back-up information from health professionals.

#### Timescales:

- Meetings to review applications are held on a monthly basis.
- Emergency and welfare appeals are dealt with immediately and decisions can be made within days if vital.



Newlife provides funding for essential community equipment, aiming to improve child health, reduce risk of significant injury and pain, as well as support delivery of care – while enabling childhood experiences and encouraging independence. Newlife also provide free loans of equipment, sensory toy packs and comfort capsules.

Will consider funding	Will not consider funding
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Specialist seating</li><li>• Wheelchairs</li><li>• Specialist buggies</li><li>• Beds</li><li>• Communication aids</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Adaptations to cars</li><li>• Adaptations to properties</li><li>• Therapy or treatment costs</li><li>• White goods</li><li>• Holidays</li></ul>

#### How to apply:

- Application form is available on Newlife website. Families can apply but support from a professional is required.

#### Timescales:

- All grant applications are assessed on an individual basis; if there is an urgent need these can be processed very quickly, however some items can take up to 6-9 months to fund.
- Emergency equipment loan requests are reviewed on the same day; if NewLife are able to help, they aim to deliver equipment within 72 hours.
- Sensory Toy Pod loans have varying timescales depending on the pod requested
  - some pods have a waiting list of a few months.
- There is currently no waiting list for Comfort Capsule loans, however these have been recently launched, and there may be a waiting list when an application is submitted.

Promise Dreams is a national charity which aims to make a difference to children who are seriously or terminally ill by making their dreams come true.

Will consider funding	Will not consider funding
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pets</li> <li>• Daytrips and exciting holidays</li> <li>• Meeting heroes (characters from TV)</li> <li>• Specialist car seats, buggies and adapted tricycles</li> <li>• Laptops, games consoles, televisions, software and sensory toys</li> <li>• Independent living equipment (e.g., stair lifts, specialist shower units) and equipment maintenance</li> <li>• Household works,( including installation of sensory rooms, room padding and therapy rooms), vehicle adaptations and decorating bedrooms</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Garden alterations not directly related to the child's needs.</li> </ul>

#### How to apply:

- Application form available on website. Application requires two supporting letters (the first from the child's GP or consultant), the second from anyone else in a supporting capacity with a title of authority. In most cases 3 quotes are required, however for medical/mobility equipment where this may be more difficult to acquire, and a quote accompanied by a description of the item and details of the supplier (e.g., from a catalogue) can be accepted in lieu of 3 quotes.

#### Timescales:

- Applications are assessed on a monthly basis at Trustee Committee meetings, usually at the end of each calendar month.



Rapid  
Effective  
Assistance for  
Children with potentially  
Terminal illness

Rapid Effective Assistance for Children with potentially Terminal Illness (REACT) works to improve the quality of life for children with life-limiting illnesses living in financially disadvantaged households throughout the UK.

Will consider funding	Will not consider funding
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mobility equipment (buggies, wheelchairs, hoists, car seats, trikes)</li> <li>• Specialist furniture (postural chairs, adjustable beds)</li> <li>• Medical equipment (monitors, support wear, spa baths)</li> <li>• Computers, laptops, software</li> <li>• Sensory toys, fibre optics, communication aids</li> <li>• Kitchen appliances (white goods)</li> <li>• Furniture, clothing, bedding, flooring</li> <li>• Travel and subsistence costs</li> <li>• Week long holidays in a REACT mobile home, or elsewhere if the mobile homes aren't suitable, day trips if a week is not suitable.</li> <li>• Funeral expenses, memorial headstones</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Overseas trips</li> <li>• Structural building works</li> <li>• Private treatment</li> <li>• Purchase of vehicles.</li> </ul>

#### How to apply:

- Application form available on website or to order over the telephone. Application completed by family but must be endorsed and signed by a medical or healthcare worker.

#### Timescales:

- REACT responds to all applications within 48 hours.





Roald Dahl's Marvellous Children's Charity provide grants to families facing financial hardship while caring for a child with a serious illness.

Will consider funding	Will not consider funding
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Physiotherapy, speech and language therapy, hydrotherapy and counselling (where NHS provision is not sufficient)</li> <li>• Play, art or music therapy sessions</li> <li>• Travel (including parking), accommodation and subsistence costs whilst a child is in hospital</li> <li>• Specialist equipment (seats, walkers, monitors)</li> <li>• Everyday items which will improve the child's quality of life (e.g., furniture and white goods)</li> <li>• Clothing (where required because of the child's condition)</li> <li>• Attendance at a medical support group conference</li> <li>• Social activities, lessons and memberships</li> <li>• iPads/laptops where of educational benefit</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Grants for children with cancer or solely with autism or ADHD.</li> <li>• Holidays or day trips</li> <li>• Property adaptations</li> <li>• Deposits for vehicles</li> <li>• Sheds/storage</li> <li>• Utility bills</li> <li>• Respite care</li> <li>• Driving lessons</li> </ul>

#### How to apply:

- A registered intermediary (health or social care professional) must complete the application. Grants paid will be sent to the intermediaries' organisations bank account and handled by the intermediary.

#### Timescales:

- Applications are considered at a monthly grants allocations meeting. The application forms need to be submitted by a set date to be considered at each month's meeting. These dates can be found on the charity's website. Depending on when the application is submitted, a decision would be made between 4-8 weeks of receipt of application.



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Sullivan's Heroes offers fundraising support specifically for home adaptations to meet children's health and care requirements where the costs of adaptations are in excess of council grants available. Sullivan's heroes provide financial grants and a fundraising platform for families where the family receive 100% of the original donations, where Gift Aid is applicable – no fees will be deducted.

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Will consider funding	Will not consider funding
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Building adaptation works</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Anything other than adaptations</li></ul>

**How to apply:**

- Complete application form available on website, accompany with notification of approval of a DFG, supporting letter from child's Occupational Therapist and quotes from at least 2 builders showing the full costs and specification of the home adaptations project.
- If approval has not yet been awarded for a DFG you can begin fundraising by applying through sending a letter from your child's Occupational Therapist.

**Timescales:**

- Applications for grants are usually decided upon within 7-10 working days.

Variety aim to support children who have to cope with sickness, disability or disadvantage. They fund hospitals and hospital units, youth clubs, and support services through their Sunshine Coaches scheme. Variety also fund wheelchairs, equipment grants and days out.

Will consider funding	Will not consider funding
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Wheelchairs (manual, powered and sport)</li> <li>• Days out</li> <li>• Medical equipment (e.g., monitors)</li> <li>• Basic care items (e.g., feeding tubes, hoists)</li> <li>• Sensory play equipment</li> <li>• Mobility equipment (e.g., walkers)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Standard household equipment or furnishings</li> <li>• Repayment of loans</li> <li>• Garden adaptations, sheds</li> <li>• Wheelchair adapted vehicles</li> <li>• Laptops, iPads</li> <li>• Travel costs</li> <li>• Trikes, bikes, buggies</li> <li>• Trips abroad</li> <li>• Medical treatment or therapy sessions</li> </ul>

#### How to apply:

- Separate application processes for wheelchairs, days out and equipment.
- *Wheelchairs:* Application available on website, written agreement from an appropriately qualified professional needs to be submitted in support of the application, alongside the supplier of the equipment's quotation.
- *Days out:* Schools and community groups that work with children who are sick, disabled or disadvantaged are to contact Variety for further information.
- *Equipment:* Application available on website, written agreement from an appropriately qualified professional needs to be submitted in support of the application, alongside the supplier of the equipment's quotation

#### Timescales:

- Applications for wheelchairs and equipment are reviewed at committee meetings 6 times a year (every two months). From grant approval it can take up to 4-6 months to raise funds for equipment or wheelchairs.

WellChild believe that every child, young person and family must have the opportunity to be cared for at home whenever and have access to high quality, appropriate care and services whatever their needs. WellChild also offer garden and bedroom makeovers through the WellChild Helping Hands home improvement programme.

Will consider funding	Will not consider funding
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Bedroom makeovers</li><li>• Garden makeovers</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Projects over than bedroom or garden makeovers</li><li>• Projects where a Disabled Facilities Grant is outstanding.</li><li>• Projects taking longer than two days.</li><li>• Projects beyond the skill level of the volunteers</li></ul>

#### How to apply:

- Application form available on website.
- A professional involved with the child (not a GP) will need to complete a supporting section of the application form confirming the child's diagnosis and the benefits the project will have on the child.
- Decisions about projects are made without visits to the property, so a clear photograph of the garden or the child's bedroom

#### Timescales:

- WellChild cannot guarantee how long it will take from them agreeing to take on a project until it's completed as WellChild rely on Company volunteers – finding them and arranging the project can take time.
- WellChild aim to complete garden and bedroom makeovers in 1-2 days.

This is not an exhaustive list of charities and what they may be able to provide support with.

Please use the following two websites below to find other potential forms of support, in addition to utilising search engines to identify charities and benevolent organisations who support on the basis of a particular diagnosis, or employment history/employment sector of parents.

[www.turn2us.org.uk](http://www.turn2us.org.uk)

[www.disability-grants.org](http://www.disability-grants.org)