

20 years



Bright Horizons FOUNDATION for Children.

NEWSLETTER JANUARY 2025

2024 RESULTS:

12 NEW BRIGHT SPACES OPENED

23 BRIGHT SPACES RENEWED

£130,000 RAISED

29,500+ CHILDREN SUPPORTED



The Foundation is a fantastic charity that has provided Hertfordshire Constabulary with three Bright Spaces which are specially designed to give children, during the worst possible times of their lives, a calm relaxing environment to feel safe in whilst in the protection of the police.

The rooms are filled with toys, health products, comfortable seating, beds and lighting which have all been provided by the charity.

Before our Bright Spaces, children who were being protected by the police for many reasons such as bad circumstances at home or mental health challenges, were just being sat in a room with nothing, now they have lovely rooms to be safe in.

Police Officer, Hertfordshire Constabulary



>>> WELCOME

Welcome to the fifth edition of the newsletter from the Bright Horizons Foundation for Children. In this issue we reflect on 2024, which was the year of our 100th Bright Space opening in the UK, and look forward to another milestone year in 2025 - the 20th anniversary of the Bright Horizons Foundation in the UK! Thank you as ever for your support, and we wish you a very Happy New Year.

>>> 100TH BRIGHT SPACE OPENS



In October 2024 we were delighted to open our 100th Bright Space with our charity partner, the Life Charity, in Oxford, where the Foundation and its volunteers created a thoughtfully designed, safe, and enriching Bright Space garden for families to enjoy.

Like all Bright Spaces, the setting at Life is more than just a physical location – it is a symbol of resilience and progress, as Bright Horizons Regional Director, Mel Pease, knows well. 35 years ago, when Mel was pregnant and experiencing homelessness, the Life Charity provided crucial support that empowered her to raise her daughter and to pursue the successful career she has today. The Foundation is honoured that Mel has shared her story, which has led to creating this landmark Bright Space project.

Mel (pictured third from right) said, "I've always wanted to have a Bright Space in my local area, so when presented with the opportunity to partner with the Life Charity and create a Bright Space, I was delighted. Giving back to an organisation that did so much for me is a surreal, full-circle moment."



NEW OPENINGS

Our 103 Bright Spaces are located throughout England and Scotland, in areas where Bright Horizons has nurseries and support offices, so that these local teams can provide ongoing support to each one. In 2024 we were delighted to open 12 new Bright Spaces, in partnership with the following agencies:

- Salford Women's Aid, domestic abuse refuge
- Sefton Women's & Children's Aid, domestic abuse refuge
- Hertfordshire Constabulary, police child protection suite
- Rape & Sexual Violence Project, counselling and support service for survivors
- Kent Police, child protection suite
- Cynthia Spencer Hospice, older children's recreation room
- Bedfordshire Police, child protection suite
- HMP Bronzefield, outdoor visiting area for families
- Life Oxford, accommodation for homeless mothers and children

2024 also saw the opening of our first client-sponsored Bright Space in partnership with HSBC, which generously funded the resources for our two Bright Spaces at the Rape and Sexual Violence Project in Birmingham. A team of HSBC volunteers also created 100 Calm Kits with us, also funded by HSBC, which will be used by RSVP's clients to help them to relax when talking about their experiences.

Our final new Bright Space to open in 2024 was for Bedfordshire Police in one of their police stations. The Bright Space is located in the station's Child Protection Suite, which is used to accommodate children and young people who are removed from their homes, for their safety, until a foster placement can be found.

Often there will be little or no warning that this is going to happen, and the experience is distressing and traumatising, with children often staying overnight in the police station.

The Bright Space contains comfortable furniture, including sofa beds, toys, games, books, art materials, spare clothes, pyjamas and toiletries. The police have told us that it will help them to protect children and engage with them more effectively, because they feel safe. This project was generously part-funded by a corporate donation from World Kinnect.

Huge thanks to all the fundraisers, donors and volunteers for making our new Bright Spaces possible, and making a difference to vulnerable children and young people.

BRIGHT SPACE RENEWALS

It is crucial to us that every child who visits a Bright Space has a positive experience, whether they are the first or most recent to walk through the doors. We continually renew and replenish the resources in our Bright Spaces in response to the needs identified to us by our partners and the families they serve. In 2024 we renewed resources in 23 of our existing Bright Spaces.

In December we fully refurbished our very first Bright Space for the Field Lane Charity in London, which provides accommodation and support to homeless vulnerable families.

Bright Horizons' contractors donated supplies and labour, installed new flooring, and painted and decorated; while our volunteers created a play space and a cosy seating area, with new

furniture, soft furnishings, toys, games, books and creative resources for families to enjoy. Huge thanks to our wonderful volunteers, fundraisers and corporate partners at Forbo, Linaker and Pentium who made this Bright Space possible.



FUNDRAISING NEWS



Our 2024 fundraising campaign, 100 Your Way, aimed to raise £100,000. We were overwhelmed by the support we received from Bright Horizons colleagues, clients, suppliers, contractors and partners, and far exceeded our target, raising more than £130,000, enabling us to help more children and families experiencing trauma and adversity.

An array of fundraising activities took place throughout the year including cake sales, art auctions, sports days, festivals, and sponsored cycles, runs, swims, walks and skydives. The Bright Horizons community also united in their fundraising efforts with the Awards of Excellence celebrations raising almost £9,000, the 100th day of the year fundraiser contributing £13,000, and the Bright Horizons South Division raising over £15,000 with their 100 fundraisers.

One of the more unusual fundraisers of 2024 was the Bright Horizons Facilities Team's Chopper Challenge. Amanda Gackowska, Bright Horizons Regional Facilities Manager, came up with the idea of combining her passion for Chopper bikes with fundraising for the Foundation. She hand-built 8 Choppers, which were used by the Facilities Team to ride a total of 100 miles around Willen Lake in Milton Keynes. The challenge raised a total of £3,687 which will be used to create a new Bright Space in Brighton.

In 2024, Bright Horizons' corporate partners generously donated almost £30,000 which is being used to create new Bright Spaces and renew those already open. Corporate partners also donated in-kind by providing labour and materials for new Bright Spaces, and play resources and equipment.

Pictured below is a small selection of the amazing efforts and contributions we saw across our community in 2024, and we appreciate them all, thank you!

- Our heartfelt thanks to the following corporate and charity partners:**
- 1st Commercial
 - Affinity
 - Amazon
 - Bagnalls
 - Brakes
 - CCS Media
 - CMC
 - Community Playthings
 - COSY
 - Denuovo
 - DMC
 - Essential Safety
 - Forbo
 - GKM Property
 - Gompels
 - Ground Control
 - Harris Evolution
 - Hertfordshire CF
 - Heyland and Spratt
 - HSBC
 - Innovation Broking
 - Linaker
 - Lostock Instalations
 - Lyreco UK Ltd
 - Millhouse
 - Morrisons Foundation
 - Paul Whitehouse
 - Print Data Solutions
 - Pentium
 - Proactis
 - Quint
 - Receptional
 - RME
 - The Fence Club
 - UK Commercial
 - Vincent Electrics
 - World Kinect



Tyler's London Moonlit Walk



James' 1,200 mile cycle



Juliet's run



Lucy & Gosia's 25K walk



Amanda's Chopper Challenge



Mark's Open Garden



Facilities Chopper Challenge



Elm Grove 100 themed fun



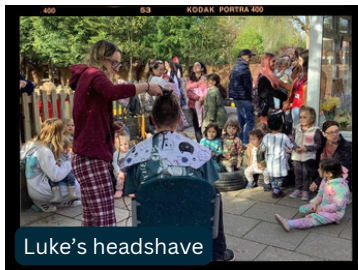
Poppy's Running



North Cheam's Skydive



Andrew & James Jurassic Coast



Luke's headshave

20TH ANNIVERSARY CAMPAIGN LAUNCHES



2025 marks the 20th anniversary of the Bright Horizons Foundation for Children in the UK! In that time, thanks to our wonderful supporters, we've created more than 100 Bright Spaces, where more than 29,500 vulnerable children play and relax in safety, helping them to recover from trauma and adversity.

To celebrate this incredible milestone, our BH20for20 campaign aims to bring the entire Bright Horizons community together again to celebrate, have fun and make a difference. Whether you are a Bright Horizons colleague, customer, client or partner, here are four ways you can get involved:

- 1 Join one of our teams taking part in 16 [Kiltwalk](#) and [Ultra Challenge](#) walks throughout England and Scotland. Distances range from 5K to 50K, during weekends between April and October, and entry fees are discounted
- 2 Organise your own Walk for Bright Spaces, whether it's 20 laps of your local green space, 20,000 steps a day or 20 different walks throughout the year. We have created a [Walk for Bright Spaces Toolkit](#) to help you
- 3 Organise or take part in your own 20-themed fundraiser: Hold a raffle with 20 prizes, organise a treasure hunt with 20 clues or complete a 20-activity challenge, this choice is yours
- 4 Donate £1.00 per month through payroll giving via your employer. Bright Horizons colleagues can sign-up [here](#)



➤➤➤ SUPPORT OUR CAMPAIGN & MAKE A DIFFERENCE

Our fundraising campaign runs all year long, so there is plenty of time to get involved, if you'd like to. We have created a suite of resources to make fundraising as easy and inclusive as possible. This includes our Walk for Bright Spaces toolkit, editable posters and certificates, Just Giving page and Text Giving code. Find out more [here](#):



Landing page

With information about the campaign, links to all the collateral



Toolkit

Walk for Bright Spaces Toolkit to support planning of local walks



Collateral

Editable posters, certificates, sponsor forms, fundraising ideas



Just Giving & Text Giving

Campaign page, Ultra Challenge & Kiltwalks linked, Text Giving



Event Management

Professionally managed by Ultra Challenge and the Kitwalk

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!