

20 years



Bright Horizons FOUNDATION for Children®

NEWSLETTER JULY 2025

2025 SO FAR:

**7 NEW BRIGHT
SPACES OPENED**

**18 BRIGHT SPACES
RENEWED**

£65,000+ RAISED

**86+ FUNDRAISING
EVENTS**

**THOUSANDS OF
CHILDREN SUPPORTED**



The new Bright Space will give children a quiet place, somewhere they can grow in confidence, where they can just be themselves and feel like they belong. At ellenor Hospice we have a holistic approach and the difference spaces like this make to children is just amazing.



*Suzi Hill, Play Therapist,
ellenor Hospice*

>>>> WELCOME

Welcome to the sixth edition of the newsletter from the Bright Horizons Foundation for Children. In this issue we will reflect on the first half of 2025, and look forward to what's ahead for the remainder of the year. Thank you for supporting us and making a difference to the lives of vulnerable children and families.

>>>> 200 CALM KITS DONATED



We were delighted to recently donate almost 200 Calm Kits to the Metropolitan Police's Child Abuse Investigation Team. The kits are being given to children and young people, in police stations throughout London, to help them to relax when being interviewed about their experiences, enabling officers to secure the best possible evidence against the perpetrators of abuse. The kits contain mindful colouring, fidget toys and sensory items.

Tracy Wilkes-Green (pictured), Bright Space Manager for the Foundation said, "We are pleased to provide these Calm Kits to both help children and young people during a distressing time in their lives, and support the police officers in their efforts to secure justice for them."

One of the Met officers said, "I used one of the Calm Kits for a child who was quite distressed. She is Autistic and has ADHD, and the fidget spinner and sensory toys were really helpful for her to stay calm during her interview."

Another officer said, "I gave two kits to a 13 year old girl, who had reported a serious sexual assault, and her younger brother. The 13 year old especially enjoyed the colouring and the change in her demeanour from the Friday to Monday was noticeable."

>>> NEW OPENINGS

Our **110 Bright Spaces** are located throughout England and Scotland, in areas where Bright Horizons has nurseries and support offices, so that local teams can provide ongoing support to each one. So far in 2025, we are delighted to have been able to **create 7 new Bright Spaces**, with 55 more currently in the pipeline. Here's a selection of our recent openings:

Solace Women's Aid, Bexley

Located in a domestic abuse refuge, this space supports Solace's team in delivering trauma-informed services and benefits children and families by providing a safe, supportive space for connection, healing, and rebuilding trust. Huge thanks to Bright Horizons South Division, Springfield Lodge, Bexleyheath, and Longfield Nursery communities, who raised over **£5,000** to fund the project, and to Solace Women's Aid for their partnership.

Royal London Hospital, London

The hub provides medical, advocacy, and emotional support for children and families affected by child sexual abuse. Our Bright Space offers a non-clinical environment to reduce healthcare-related anxiety and supports therapeutic play, preparation, and recovery for young patients. Thanks to Bright Horizons London & East Division nurseries and Tyler-Jame, who raised **£650** through the Thames Moonlight charity walk, along with Early Childhood Specialist Abi and Regional Director Tom.

Ellenor Hospice, Dartford

We were delighted to open our second Bright Space with Ellenor Hospice in June, following fantastic fundraising from local nurseries, who raised nearly **£8,000**. The new summerhouse Bright Space was fitted out with furniture, books, sensory toys, creative supplies, and therapeutic materials to create a comforting environment.

Whittington Hospital, London

This Bright Space offers teenage inpatients a place to relax, connect with peers, and enjoy therapeutic activities like arts and crafts. Our hope is that it will help reduce isolation and support emotional well-being for the teenagers on the ward. It builds on our first Bright Space here which was a garden that opened in 2020. Thank you to the Southgate nursery community for raising over **£1,500**, and to the volunteers who helped make it happen.

St Elizabeth Hospice, Suffolk

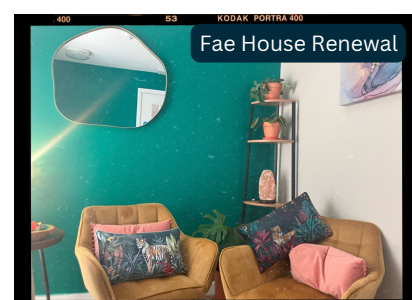
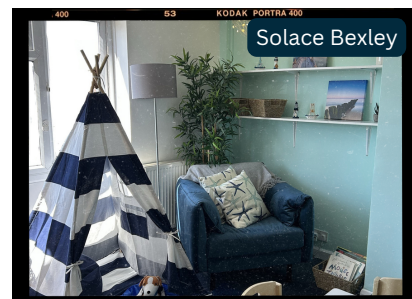
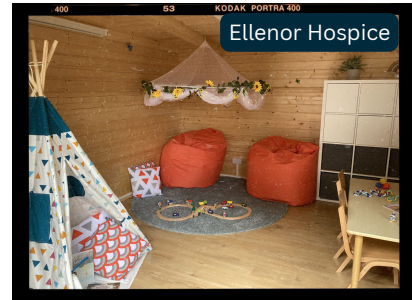
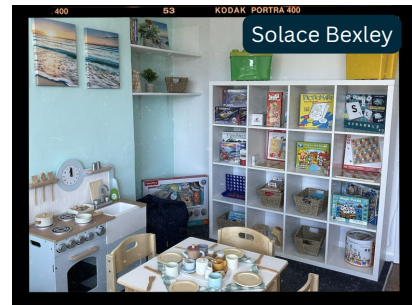
Thanks to fundraising by Bright Horizons Quayside Nursery, including a local grant secured by Zoe Austen and passionate support from Deputy Manager Amy Cant and volunteers, we were able to open a Bright Space in the bereavement suite in the St Elizabeth Hospice that will offer families a private and comfortable space to process and heal.

>>> BRIGHT SPACE RENEWALS

We're committed to ensuring every child who visits a Bright Space has a positive and meaningful experience. To support this, we regularly refresh and update the resources in our Bright Spaces based on feedback from our partners and the families they support. This can include furniture, toys, books, equipment and decorations.

So far in 2025, we've renewed resources in **18 Bright Spaces** to help keep them engaging, comforting, and responsive to children's evolving needs. This includes a full refurbishment of Stamford Hill Refuge, Hesta Refuge, Fae House and Care Afloat.

Thank you so much to all the volunteers, donors and connecting teams who have helped support these projects by giving us your time and support, we couldn't do it without you!



Our 2025 fundraising campaign, #BH20for20, celebrates our 20th Anniversary, encouraging everyone in our community to do something they enjoy to raise money and support our projects. We are so grateful for the support that we have already received from Bright Horizons colleagues, clients, suppliers, contractors and partners, who have **raised approximately £65,000!** This fundraising will enable us to help more children and families experiencing trauma and adversity in the UK.

So far this year, our community has taken on an inspiring range of fundraising activities including skydives, bike rides, summer fetes, dog walks, and Ultra Challenges from 10k to 100k. What's made it truly special is the spirit behind every step, every stride, and every act of kindness. From our Directors tackling the Three Peaks Challenge to the little ones in Basingstoke walking 20 laps around the park, we're incredibly proud of how our Bright Horizons community comes together, each person driven by the same purpose: to brighten the lives of vulnerable children.

We have had approximately **120 of our Bright Horizons colleagues sign up to do a KiltWalk or Ultra Challenge** in the first half of this year to fundraise. These walks happen all across Scotland and England and are accessible for all different ages and abilities - some of our little ones have even got involved!

Sharon Smith, Nursey Manager of Hamilton Nursery commented: ***"The sun was shining last week for our very own "Wee kiddy on Kilt Walk" a sponsored walk around the building. Families came along and joined us and the children were all dressed up in tartan/Scottish for the occasion. We managed to do 5 laps of our route and we saw some special friends along the way and danced along to some Scottish music."***

Meggie Davis, Nursery Manager of Chelmsford Nursery, also commented on her team taking on the Peak District Ultra Challenge: ***"A team of 8 hiked together to complete the 10 mile Ultra Challenge. It was challenging, sweaty, and pushed us to our limits (the heat wave was not helpful), but also full of laughs, teamwork, and unforgettable moments. A true test of endurance and an incredible team-building experience we'll always remember."***

Pictured below is a small selection of the amazing efforts and contributions we saw across our community in 2025, and we appreciate them all, thank you!

Our heartfelt thanks to the following corporate partners who have generously supported us through donations, providing labour, materials, play resources and equipment for our Bright Spaces:

Kentlincs
Forbo
DMC
Ground Force
Hey
Briggs Fire & Security
Churches Fire & Security
DMC
Kent Lincs
MSL
PHS
UK Commercial
CMS
Urban Environments
Ground Control
Ecolab
Contego
Hope
Brakes
Print Data Solutions
Ground Control
IDMS Cleaning
Lifestory Creative
Bennett Associates Fire
Safety Consultants Limited
Lyreco
Harris Evolution
In Depth Cleaning
Verve
Fourteen 10
Theories Landscaping
Lostock Installations
M Handley
Corstophine & Wright
Vincents
Henry Davidson
Entete Cordial
Miele



Work & Family Team's 10 mile walk



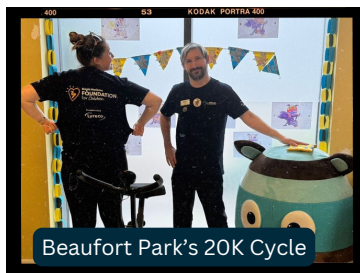
Frimley Green's Sky Dive



Director's Three Peaks Challenge



Basingstoke's 20 laps of a Park



Beaufort Park's 20K Cycle



Chelmsford's Spring Fete



Andrew's 100K Ultra Challenge



Bracknell's 10k Ultra Challenge



Daniel's 29K Ultra Challenge

COMING UP IN THE CALENDAR

BH20for20

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CELEBRATE THE FOUNDATION'S 20TH ANNIVERSARY WITH US!

On 25th of August the Bright Horizons Foundation for Children celebrates its 20th anniversary in the UK!

We'd love for you to join the celebration by hosting a birthday cake sale, a birthday tea party, or some classic party games in your place of work one day this summer! It will be a fun and meaningful way to come together, mark the occasion, and celebrate our community's efforts in brightening the lives of vulnerable children and families across the UK.



Please share your celebration photos with us using the hashtag #BH20for20.



SIGN-UP FOR A CHALLENGE!

There's still time to take part in the **Ultra Challenges** and **Kiltwalks**! Whether you fancy a scenic stroll or a full-on endurance test, now's the time to register and get moving for a great cause. Distances range from 5K to 50K and entry fees are discounted!

23rd August Ultra Challenge: London Summer Walk
6-7th September Ultra Challenge: South Coast
13-14th September Ultra Challenge: Thames Path
13th September Ultra Challenge: Thames Bridges Trek
14th September Kiltwalk: Edinburgh
27th September Ultra Challenge: Chilterns
11th October Ultra Challenge: Kent Downs



 **kiltwalk**



To find out more and register you can do so [here](#) for the Ultra Challenges and [here](#) for the Kiltwalk.

Huge thanks to the 120 people who have signed-up so far, and good luck to everyone with challenges coming-up!



DO YOUR OWN THING

We would love for you to fundraise and donate in ways that feel good to you and your community. We have range of resources, including fundraising ideas on our website [here](#) or you can email us at getinvolved@brighthorizons.com if you need help.



SAVE THE DATE: **FUNDATION DAY** - 2ND DECEMBER

This year's FUNDation Day is on 2nd December, which coincides with #Giving Tuesday! FUNDation Day is an annual event, bringing our community together to have fun and fundraise for the Foundation. Why not wear your Christmas Jumpers and donate £1 to the Foundation? Let's make it meaningful, merry, and memorable. Resources coming soon!

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

To keep updated please follow us on [LinkedIn](#)

