



As well as providing clinical care, our Trust has an important role in research. This allows us to discover new and improved ways of treating patients. While under our care, you may be invited to take part in research. To find out more please visit: www.uhbristol.nhs.uk/research-innovation or call the research and innovation team on 0117 342 0233.

For access to other patient leaflets and information please go to the following address:
www.uhbristol.nhs.uk/patients-and-visitors/information-for-patients/

Hospital switchboard: 0117 923 0000

Minicom: 0117 934 9869
www.uhbristol.nhs.uk

For an interpreter or signer please contact the telephone number on your appointment letter.

For this leaflet in large print, audio or PDF format, please email patientleaflets@uhbristol.nhs.uk.

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Patient information service
Bristol Royal Hospital for Children

Paediatric palliative care



Our philosophy is to put the child and family at the heart of our care, to make a positive difference through life, death and bereavement.

Respecting everyone
Embracing change
Recognising success
Working together
Our hospitals.



What we do

We care for children with life-threatening or life-limiting illnesses, such as genetic or metabolic conditions, seizure disorders, heart or lung disease, cancer, neurological conditions, infectious diseases or trauma. We also offer a perinatal palliative care service for those who have learned their unborn baby has a life-threatening medical condition.

We can be an extra layer of support and comfort for the entire family during a difficult time. Our help and involvement can start early, from the point of diagnosis, even alongside curative care, as well as when the direction of care changes and a child is near the end of life. Our support continues into bereavement, so the full title of our team is the paediatric palliative care and bereavement support team.

Meet the team

We have two palliative care consultants, a clinical psychologist, three nurses, and an administrative assistant. We will usually meet children and their families on the hospital wards or outpatient department. We have specialist knowledge and will work supportively with your child's healthcare teams to find ways of providing care that best reflects your family's values and preferences.

How can we help you?

We recognise that each family is unique. Our aim is to:

- find out what matters to your family and help you form goals of care that are right for your child and for you
- focus on your child's and your family's quality of life
- facilitate communication between your family and your child's healthcare teams
- support you with difficult conversations and complex decision-making (sometimes known as parallel planning)
- help prevent, manage and ease symptoms that cause pain or discomfort
- provide emotional, psychological, social, spiritual and bereavement support
- assist with care planning meetings and promote collaborative continuity of care.

We work closely with community services including GP's, community paediatricians, children's community nurses and community palliative care teams, as well as other hospitals and hospices local to you.

We also provide advice, education and support for healthcare professionals caring for seriously ill children.

We undertake research and audit; participate in development of local and national care policy guidelines, and advocate on behalf of children and families faced with life-limiting illness and conditions.

Referring to our team

We accept referrals from hospital based and community health care professionals. We also accept self-referrals from patients and their families but please note we will also need to contact your treating team.

We will endeavour to respond to referrers within two working days.

Contact us

We work 9.00am to 5.00pm, Monday to Friday (excluding bank holidays).

You can contact us on **0117 342 7293** or email

childrenspalliativecare@uhbristol.nhs.uk

Or visit our webpage: <http://www.uhbristol.nhs.uk/ppcbss>