



Over many years Flowtech have made donations to a number of charities to help make a difference to their work and support good causes.

A number of our staff, in previous years, have undertaken various sponsored events and donated their funds to a local children's hospice: Derian House.

Upon visiting the facilities situated on the outskirts of Chorley, Lancashire, the Board of Directors have decided to support Derian House as our Charity and further assist this fantastic facility

and the dedicated staff who offer support to terminally ill children and their families.

You will find details on the following page of the dedicated work the team at Derian House undertakes.

If you would like to make a donation or find out more about their outstanding work, please contact us and we will be happy to put you in touch with their publicity team. You can also find their story at:

www.derianhouse.co.uk

Welcome to Derian House Children's Hospice

Once upon a time ...

When we were children, it always seemed the best stories of childhood began, "Once upon a time" and ended, "they all lived happily ever after" Sadly for the children of Derian House and their parents, the reality is somewhat different, and all too often, living happily ever after, is not to be.

For the parents of a child diagnosed as terminally ill, there can be no long term future, ... the planning of their child's education, the milestones in their child's life ... for who knows what tomorrow, next week, next year may bring. For them there is sufficient challenge in coping with their child's illness from one day to the next. For them, their children's future is counted in smaller terms, sometimes in months or weeks, rather than years, in taking each day as it comes. For them, Derian House becomes an intrinsic part of that future

Whilst their lives may be cut tragically short, we ensure that they lead as full and normal a life as possible by offering them the optimum support to cope with their illness, along with the best possible medical care, and as much fun and laughter as they can pack into every single day...

It is impossible to imagine the heart stopping fear a parent feels on being told their child is terminally ill. At such a profoundly difficult time the family has so much to deal with, and needs a support system that will help them care for their child as they deal with day to day living.

In providing specialist palliative care for terminally ill children, Derian House is a means of support for the whole family as they take their emotional journey one careful step at a time. Yet in spite of its role, it's a very special place where life is for living ... for making the most of every single moment. Indeed there is a sense of purpose in the undaunted spirit of these special children who allow us into their lives, often for all too short a time.

We feel immensely privileged to be part of a team which will support them and their family as they begin to take the first steps towards dealing with their illness and the implications that it holds for their future. There is no doubt that the very special atmosphere of Derian House and its positive philosophy is one which owes its being to the children, parents and staff alike.

The prospect of a children's hospice conjures up a myriad of expectations for those who visit for the first time, be they a parent, a health care professional, or a member of staff starting work at the hospice.

From a parent's perspective, that expectation is mixed with the fear and anger that goes with being told that their child will not survive an illness which initially they had every hope of overcoming - an illness which has taken over, not only the life of their child, but of their family. The concept of hospice care for their child is at once an unknown quantity and an intrusion into their lives as a family. However, for those families who visit Derian House for the first time there is without exception a sense of relief, surprise and encouragement that their fears have been unfounded, and that



they are presented with a support network that will be driven entirely by their own requirements.

Only a parent who has had to face such a profoundly emotional journey can comprehend or explain what it means to them and their child to have the care and support that Derian House has to offer ... only they can describe the alternatives open to them if Derian House were not there...

Please make a donation in support of Derian House.

With your help we can make the most of every moment for children whose moments will be all too few ...

