

The Children's Trust **Statement of purpose**

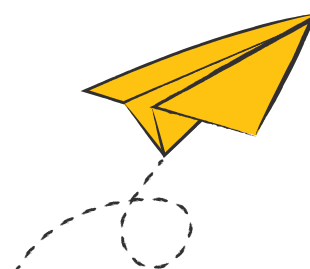


Statement of Purpose

As a healthcare provider The Children's Trust is required to produce a Statement of Purpose. This document outlines our aims, values, services, and the way we intend to meet the needs and promote the welfare of the children in our care.

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1. Introduction to The Children's Trust

The Children's Trust is the UK's leading charity for children with brain injury and neurodisability.

We provide rehabilitation, education, care and community services to children and young people, with brain injury, neurodisability and complex health needs.

We help children through play, exploration, laughter and having fun; things that are often absent when a child has limited mobility or has had a challenging time. When therapy, healthcare and education are combined with music, arts and crafts, day trips and other fun activities, children are encouraged to focus not on their limitations, but on the goals that matter to them – and to enjoy themselves along the way.

What we believe in

We believe that all children have the right to be children, regardless of health conditions, physical challenges or life circumstances. They have the right to play, to laugh, and to learn. They have the right to make connections with each other, with their families, and with the world around them. The Children's Trust exists to create these opportunities, specifically for children with brain injury and neurodisability.

Our services

The work our frontline teams do every day is at the heart of our mission to support children and families through expert care, therapy, and education. Our teams work with skill, compassion, and dedication.

Our highly skilled team consists of doctors, nurses, carers, physiotherapists, occupational therapists, speech and language therapists, music therapists, psychologists, play specialists and multidisciplinary technicians. We also have specialist expertise such as moving and handling advisors and assistive technology practitioners. Together our team helps each child build confidence, develop independence and take part in everyday, meaningful activities that are active, engaging and fun.

The residential neurorehabilitation we provide at our Level 1 national specialist centre in Tadworth is the largest service of its kind in the UK. Our multidisciplinary team work closely together to offer intensive joined up, holistic therapy, education and care that supports children and their families.

We offer residential care for children with complex health needs, including long term ventilation needs, with access to 24-hour nursing support. Children and young people stay in one of seven purpose-built houses based on their needs and age. Three of our houses support children and young people who are visiting for a short break, are transitioning from hospital to home, or accessing an intensive neurorehabilitation programme. The remaining four houses are residential children's homes caring for children and young people with complex care needs.

The Children's Trust School is a residential, non-maintained special school for children and young people aged 2–19 with complex needs, including neurodisability. Located on the same site as our specialist neurorehabilitation centre in Tadworth, it brings together education, health, therapy and care to support every pupil to live the best life possible.

Our Community Rehabilitation Service supports children across the UK after a brain injury, offering a flexible three-tiered approach, harnessing the power of digital information and remote rehabilitation, alongside intensive rehabilitation in the community.

Tier one: Digital information

Our website, the [Brain Injury Hub](#) is a resource for families, teachers and anyone who would like to know more about acquired brain injury in children.

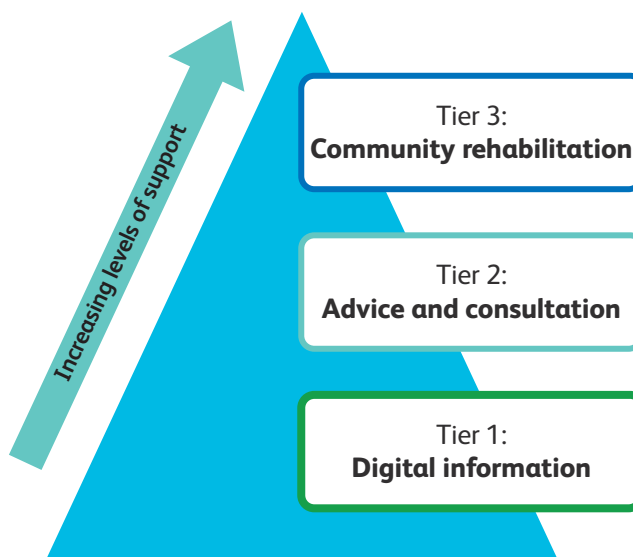
[Bumps Happen](#) is our online resource for families, schools, and professionals. It provides clear information, which helps parents understand how to spot a concussion, what to do next, and how to support their child in returning to school and other activities after a bump to the head.

Tier two: Advice and consultation

Our national virtual Acquired Brain Injury (ABI) team offers tailored advice and education adapted to each family's needs, including in areas where in-person therapy isn't available.

Tier three: Community Rehabilitation

Some children need more hands-on or intensive rehabilitation to help them reach their goals. Our team offers home- or school-based sessions, or families can visit our site for outpatient support. We also offer virtual assessments and ongoing support for families further afield.



1.1 Our regulators

The primary regulator for The Children's Trust is the Office for Standards in Education, Children's Services and Skills (OFSTED). OFSTED Care is our primary regulator for care and OFSTED Education is the primary regulator for The Children's Trust School. Our current rating from OFSTED Care is "good" and the rating from OFSTED Education is "outstanding".

The secondary regulator for The Children's Trust is the Care Quality Commission (CQC).

We are also regulated by the Charity Commission and the Gambling Commission.



2. Quality and Purpose of Care

The Children's Trust aims to deliver specialist care that is safe, effective and tailored to the unique needs of each child and young person. Through this approach, we focus on achieving meaningful outcomes, supporting progress and ensuring that care adapts to changing needs over time.

2.1 Core Aims (Outcomes for Children)

The Children's Trust aims to:

- Promote positive experiences and meaningful progress, enabling children to achieve outcomes that improve their wellbeing and independence
- Deliver individualised, child-centred care that reflects each child's needs, preferences and communication methods
- Support children to develop skills, confidence and participation through therapeutic, educational and recreational opportunities
- Ensure children's complex health needs are safely and effectively met, supported by skilled nursing and multidisciplinary teams
- Work in partnership with families and professionals to achieve planned, positive transitions and long-term outcomes

2.2 Values and Ethos

The service operates with a strong, child-centred ethos that places children and families at the heart of care. Practice is underpinned by:

- Respect and dignity: recognising each child's individuality, voice and rights including the cultural, linguistic and religious needs of the children.
- Nurturing relationships: staff build trusting, consistent relationships that promote safety and emotional security
- Clinical safety and excellence: care is delivered by trained and competent staff within robust clinical governance and safety systems
- Partnership working: collaboration with families, professionals and commissioners to ensure coordinated and responsive care
- Continuous learning and improvement: commitment to improving quality through reflection, audit, feedback and learning from incidents
- This ethos ensures that the service provides a safe, supportive and therapeutic environment where children and young people can thrive and achieve their full potential.

2.3 Our Promises



Child first

- To put children and young people first, seeking their views and sharing decision making with them.
- To contribute to our community, making it warm, positive and fun.
- To connect meaningfully with children and young people, enriching their lives.



Aim high

- To be curious and courageous, exploring new ideas.
- Think big, finding ways to add value and improve what we do.
- To focus on quality, act responsibly and use evidence to support our choice.



Care deeply

- To be friendly and show genuine compassion.
- To connect and collaborate effectively inside and outside of our charity.
- To recognise and encourage each other, taking time to celebrate successes.



Be open

- To speak up confidently and look for solutions.
- To listen to others, sharing and receiving feedback in a positive way.
- To invite different views, respecting everyone's roles and contributions.



Own it

- To take responsibility, owning what we do and delivering on our promises.
- To set ourselves high standards and use our expertise across the charity.
- To grow from mistakes, taking every opportunity to develop and improve.

2.4 Accommodation

The Children's Trust is located in Tadworth, Surrey, in a peaceful, semi rural setting surrounded by extensive green grounds. The site provides a safe, calm and therapeutic environment for children and young people, while still being within easy reach of local amenities and transport links to London and the surrounding areas. The spacious setting allows for outdoor activities, therapy, rehabilitation, and sensory experiences, supporting children's wellbeing, development and enjoyment as part of their daily lives.

Each house is designed to meet the identified needs of the children and young people living there, with environments adapted to support a range of health conditions, levels of independence and therapeutic requirements. The setting promotes safety, accessibility and comfort, while enabling personalised routines and care.



2.5 Compliments and Complaints

The Children's Trust is committed to ensuring that the views, concerns and experiences of children, young people and their families are listened to, taken seriously and used to improve the quality of care we provide.

We operate a clear and accessible complaints procedure, designed to support children, young people, families and professionals to raise concerns in a way that feels safe, supported and responsive. Our approach reflects national standards and our organisational commitment to openness, learning and continuous improvement.

This approach supports a culture where speaking up is encouraged and valued, and where feedback continuously drives safer, more effective and more responsive care.

Our Complaints Policy is readily available for reference, and clear information on how to make a complaint or offer a compliment is displayed throughout the site via posters and leaflets, ensuring it is accessible to all children, families, and visitors.

2.6 Freedom to Speak Up

The Children's Trust promotes a culture of openness and transparency where staff feel safe and supported to speak up about concerns, including those relating to patient safety, quality of care and staff wellbeing. A dedicated Freedom to Speak Up Guardian, supported by trained ambassadors, provides confidential advice and clear routes for raising concerns, including anonymously. Information shared through speaking up is taken seriously and used to drive learning, strengthen psychological safety and support continuous improvement across the organisation.

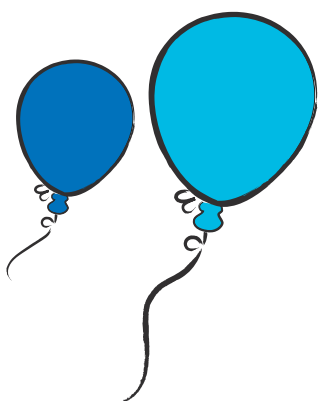




3. Views Wishes and Feelings

Children and young people are supported to express their views, wishes and feelings, which are central to how their care is planned and delivered. Staff use a range of individualised communication approaches to ensure that each child can share their preferences, likes and dislikes in a way that is meaningful to them. Many children have complex communication needs so to ensure their voice is heard; staff use specialist communication methods and tools tailored to the individual. This enables them to participate as fully as possible in decisions about their care. Children are actively supported to express their preferences in key

areas of their daily lives, including choices around clothing, meals, activities and daily routines. A range of forums and opportunities are provided to ensure children's voices are heard, including sharing their experiences and feedback to influence both their own care and service development. Goal setting is undertaken collaboratively with children and their families, ensuring that their views are reflected in their plans and aspirations, helping children to feel listened to, respected and involved in their care and rehabilitation.

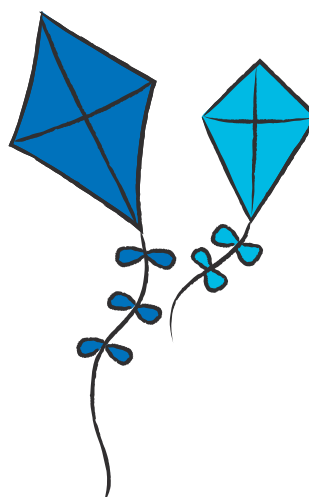




4. Education

Staff work closely with children and young people, their families, therapists and healthcare professionals to provide a curriculum that reflects each pupil's individual abilities, aspirations and goals. Through a personalised and adaptable approach, learning is designed to be accessible, engaging and meaningful, enabling pupils to make progress at their own pace while developing independence, communication and participation skills.

Education provision is delivered across both The Children's Trust School, which supports day and residential pupils, and the Surrey Teaching Centre, which provides education for children and young people accessing rehabilitation placements. The close integration of education with residential care and rehabilitation services ensures a coordinated and individualised approach, supporting pupils to develop the skills needed for everyday life and achieve the best possible outcomes. Further details regarding the provision within The Children's Trust School are provided in Section 4.1, with the education offer for pupils attending the Surrey Teaching Centre outlined in Section 4.2.



4.1 The Childrens Trust School

Children and young people, both day and residential placements at The Children's Trust, have access to a specialist on-site school, which provides high-quality education tailored to meet their individual needs. The Children's Trust School is a residential non-maintained special school for pupils aged 2 to 19 with a wide range of complex needs, including neurodisability, acquired brain injury and associated health conditions. Education is delivered through a highly personalised, multidisciplinary approach, integrating learning with therapy, health and care to support each child's development and wellbeing.

At The Children's Trust School, we deliver a bespoke, personalised curriculum that reflects the unique needs, strengths and aspirations of every pupil. Learning is carefully planned and sequenced to build knowledge and skills through small, achievable and aspirational steps. Our curriculum is closely aligned to pupils' Education, Health and Care (EHC) Plan outcomes, enabling them to make meaningful progress, develop independence and achieve their full potential.

4.2 Surrey Teaching Centre Medical Pupil Referral Unit

In addition, children and young people on neurorehabilitation placements at The Children's Trust have access to education with the Surrey Teaching Centre Medical Pupil Referral Unit during their placements. The Surrey Teaching Centre plays a key role in supporting education within the rehabilitation service. Working as part of the wider multidisciplinary team to ensure continuity between therapeutic goals and educational delivery, it contributes to the development and implementation of pathways such as fatigue management for children with acquired brain injury. This ensures that teaching approaches are aligned with clinical understanding and support each child's ability to engage in learning effectively. The Surrey Teaching Centre also supports families with planning for the return to education in their local community and supports home schools with re-integration planning.

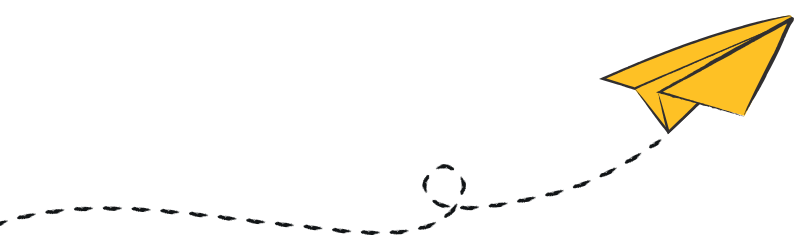




5. Enjoyment and Achievement

Children and young people at The Children's Trust are supported to enjoy their daily lives and achieve their individual goals. Staff have high aspirations for each child and provide encouragement and support to help them make meaningful progress, recognising and celebrating achievements throughout their journey. A wide range of activities is available both within the houses and across the wider site, including creative, sensory and recreational opportunities tailored to individual interests and abilities. Children are supported to take part in experiences such as music, art, cultural events and community-based activities, enabling them to try new things and build confidence.

Activities are planned with flexibility to ensure that every child can participate at their own level and pace, with staff using creative approaches to match opportunities to each child's needs. Through this, children are able to develop new skills, increase independence and experience enjoyment in ways that are meaningful to them. This focus on participation, achievement and positive experiences supports children and young people to build confidence, enhance wellbeing and enjoy a fulfilling daily life.





6. Health

6.1 Qualifications and professional supervision of staff providing healthcare or therapy

Healthcare and therapy at The Children's Trust are delivered by a highly skilled multidisciplinary team. This includes:

- Medical staff
- Nurses and carers providing 24-hour clinical care
- Allied Health Professionals (AHPs) including:
 - Physiotherapists
 - Occupational therapists
 - Speech and language therapists
 - Music therapists
- Clinical and Educational Psychologists
- Specialist roles, such as health play specialists, moving and handling advisors and assistive technology practitioners.

All staff are appropriately qualified for their roles, and newly appointed staff undergo structured inductions and competency-based training, including:

- Role-specific portfolios for nurses and carers
- Therapy-specific induction programmes
- Competency frameworks aligned to recognised standards (e.g. WHO rehabilitation competency framework)

Professional supervision arrangements are robust and include regular clinical supervision and performance review to support staff development and ensure safe practice. Ongoing competency assessments are undertaken for staff carrying out delegated healthcare tasks, with these overseen by qualified healthcare professionals to maintain high standards of care. In addition, structured team meetings and reflective practice sessions enable staff to review practice, share learning and continuously improve. Staff also have access to specialist supervision, including safeguarding supervision for clinical staff, ensuring they are appropriately supported in managing complex needs and maintaining safe, effective care.

This ensures that staff maintain safe, effective and up-to-date practice when delivering healthcare and therapeutic interventions.

6.2 Measuring effectiveness, evidence base, and access to information

The effectiveness of healthcare and therapy is measured through a comprehensive clinical governance framework, including clinical audit, outcome measurement, incident reporting and feedback from children, young people and families. A structured audit programme is used to monitor the quality and safety of care, identify themes and drive improvement, while outcome-based tools such as goal-setting approaches demonstrate measurable progress for children, including significant improvements in satisfaction and achievement of individual goals. Healthcare and therapy are underpinned by evidence-based practice and national guidance, including NICE standards and recognised clinical pathways, with ongoing evaluation through data analysis, multidisciplinary review and external collaboration. Information on effectiveness is accessible through internal governance systems, published Quality Accounts and regulatory reports, ensuring transparency and continuous improvement in the care and therapy provided.

6.3 Trauma Informed Care

We are committed to delivering care, education, and therapy within a trauma-informed framework, recognising that many of the children and young people we support have experienced trauma and adversity which may impact their development, behaviour, and wellbeing. Our approach promotes environments that are safe, nurturing and built on trust where interactions are compassionate, respectful, and responsive to individual needs. Trauma-informed principles, including collaboration, empowerment and cultural sensitivity, are embedded across our multidisciplinary teams and inform all stages of care from assessment and admission through to discharge and transition planning. This includes the use of the SPECS multidisciplinary training package, which supports staff to consider Social, Physical, Emotional, Cognitive and Spiritual/identity factors in a holistic and consistent way.

Staff are supported through mandatory training, reflective practice, and specialist psychological input to deliver consistent, person-centred care. Trauma-informed approaches are integrated into risk assessment, behaviour support planning, and clinical decision-making, ensuring that responses to distress are non-judgmental and focused on understanding underlying need. We adopt the Patient Safety Incident Response Framework (PSIRF) to ensure that learning from incidents is approached through a compassionate, systems-based lens rather than blame, supporting continuous improvement and psychological safety for both children and staff. We also prioritise staff wellbeing, recognising the emotional demands of this work, and promote a supportive culture that aims to reduce burnout and enables the delivery of safe, effective, and high-quality care in line with CQC expectations.





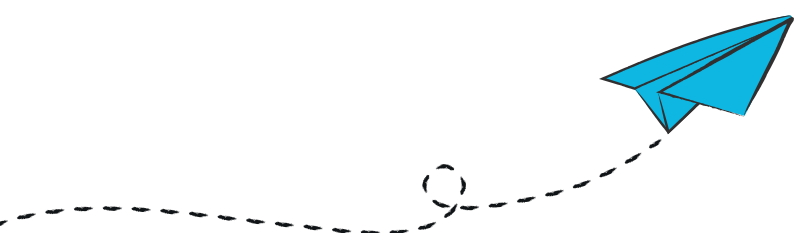
7. Positive Relationships

Children and young people at The Children's Trust are supported to develop positive, trusting relationships with staff, peers, families and other professionals involved in their care. Staff build strong, nurturing relationships with children through consistent, responsive and individualised care, taking time to understand each child's personality, communication style and preferences. This enables children to feel safe, secure and valued within their home environment.

Relationships between staff and children are characterised by warmth, respect and sensitivity, with staff supporting children to communicate, express emotions and build confidence in social interactions. Children are

also supported to develop relationships with their peers through shared activities and experiences, helping to promote inclusion and a sense of belonging.

Families play a central role in children's lives, and the service works in partnership with them to maintain and strengthen these important relationships. Regular communication, involvement in planning and opportunities for visits and contact ensure that family connections are supported wherever possible. This focus on positive relationships helps children and young people to feel connected, supported and able to develop socially and emotionally.





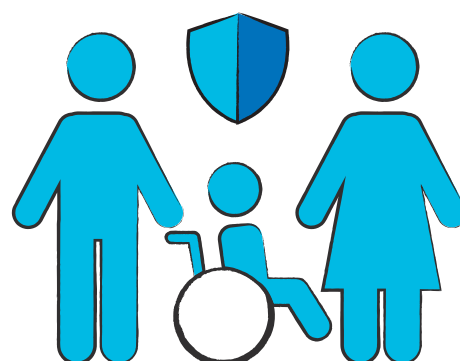
8. Safeguarding of Children and Young People

Children and young people at The Children's Trust are safeguarded through robust systems, clear procedures and a strong culture of safety across the organisation. Staff are trained to recognise and respond to safeguarding concerns and are supported to raise any issues promptly, with confidence that these will be taken seriously and acted upon appropriately. All safeguarding concerns and incidents are shared with relevant agencies and are reviewed to identify learning and improve practice. Clear care plans and risk assessments are in place to ensure that each child receives the right level of supervision and support in line with their individual needs.

The organisation promotes a culture of openness and continuous learning, with systems in place to monitor safeguarding practice and identify any patterns or emerging

risks. Staff receive regular training, supervision and support to ensure they have the skills and knowledge required to keep children safe. A range of mechanisms, including the Freedom to Speak Up Guardian, further support staff to raise concerns in confidence. This proactive and reflective approach ensures that the safety and welfare of children and young people remain paramount at all times.

A copy of the Safeguarding Children and Adults policy can be found on our website in addition to our annual safeguarding report. The Behaviours of Concern policy and the Restrictive Physical Intervention and Clinical Holding Guideline are available upon request.





9. Leadership and Management

Leadership and management at The Children's Trust are focused on delivering safe, effective and high-quality care through strong governance, clear oversight and a child-centred ethos. The service is overseen by a Board of Trustees, who provide strategic direction, accountability and assurance regarding the quality and safety of care.

Managers provide regular supervision, training and team meetings, enabling staff to reflect on their practice and develop their skills. A thorough induction programme ensures that new staff are well prepared, and recruitment processes are designed to ensure that all staff are safely vetted and suitable to work with children and young people.

9.1 Safer Recruitment

We follow safer recruitment processes to ensure all staff are suitable to work with children and young people. Candidates go through a structured selection process, including interviews with safeguarding questions. We ensure all staff have the appropriate qualifications, skills and experience for their role. Before starting, all staff complete thorough checks such as identity, references, employment history, right to work and enhanced DBS checks. All recruitment is carried out by trained staff, and managers ensure everyone is fully vetted and safe to work in our service.



Responsible Individual for OFSTED:

Mike Thiedke, Chief Executive

Email: mthiedke@thechildrenstrust.org.uk



The Registered Manager for the CQC and OFSTED and
Nominated Individual for the CQC :

Bethan Eaton-Haskins, Director of Nursing and Quality

Email: beatonhaskins@thechildrenstrust.org.uk



10. Care Planning

Care planning at The Children's Trust is child-centred, holistic and tailored to meet the individual needs of each child and young person. Comprehensive assessments are undertaken prior to admission to ensure that placements are appropriate and that all aspects of a child's health, care, education and emotional needs can be effectively met. Individual care and health plans are developed in partnership with children, families and the multidisciplinary team, ensuring that each child's needs, preferences and aspirations are clearly identified and reflected.

Care plans are detailed, regularly reviewed and responsive to change, providing clear guidance to staff on how to support each child safely and effectively, including the level of supervision and specialist interventions required. Planning processes are coordinated across residential care, education and therapy services to ensure a consistent and joined-up approach. Children and young people, and their families where appropriate, are actively involved in ongoing planning and review, enabling their views to shape care and future outcomes. This approach ensures that care is personalised, flexible and focused on supporting each child to achieve their goals and reach their full potential.



Conclusion

At The Children's Trust, everything we do is centred on improving the lives of children and young people with brain injury, neurodisability and complex health needs. We are committed to providing safe, compassionate and high-quality care that enables every child to achieve their fullest potential, enjoy positive experiences and build meaningful relationships. Through our integrated approach to care, rehabilitation, education and community support, we work

in partnership with children, families, professionals and commissioners to deliver outcomes that are personalised, evidence-based and focused on what matters most to each child. We continually strive to learn, improve and innovate, ensuring that children and young people receive the specialist support they need to live fulfilling lives, maximise their independence and experience the very best childhood possible.



The Children's Trust
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Charity registration number: 288018

Company registration number: 1757875

Registered with



The Children's Trust is registered with the Fundraising Regulator, inspected and rated 'a Good Provider' by Ofsted Care (for residential houses).
The Children's Trust School is rated 'an Outstanding Provider' by Ofsted Education. TCT_2490 07/26