



NOAH'S ARK
children's hospice

noahsarkhospice.org.uk

A MOMENT IN TIME



**OUR IMPACT
IN 2025/2026**



WE ARE NOAH'S ARK CHILDREN'S HOSPICE

We help babies, children and young people with life-threatening or life-shortening conditions, and their families, make the most of every day. And for those who die young, we do all we can to bring comfort to their last moments.

Children and families are at the heart of everything we do. We provide exceptional care, organise fun activities and help families do things they may have never thought possible.

We exist to help those we support enjoy life as children, rather than as patients – as families, not just as carers.

We take an individual approach, adapting our care to meet the needs of each child. We offer support to the whole family, not just the child who is unwell, including dedicated sibling support.

Our help is available wherever it is needed – in the home, in the community or at our hospice building, The Ark.



“ Noah's Ark has saved our sanity and our lives. We genuinely don't know where we'd be without them. ”

Helen, Mum to Ruby who is being supported by Noah's Ark

OUR VALUES



KINDNESS

We show compassion and empathy in all our interactions



EXCELLENCE

We are compassionate and exacting about our mission



COURAGE

We are strong and ambitious in all we do

A MOMENT OF IMPACT IN 2025

Thanks to the generosity of five supporters, our Fundraising Team brought a fleet of supercars to The Ark to fulfil a young person's final wish. The visit created a special moment for



the family, offering time together and a lasting memory.

A MESSAGE FROM OUR CEO



This year has marked a period of exceptional progress for Noah's Ark. Every step we have taken has been driven by our commitment to deliver outstanding care to the children and families we support.

I am incredibly proud to share the impact we have made together. We have strengthened our care model by developing a clear and responsive structure that brings together both specialist clinical care and vital community support. Having two specialist teams will support smoother care delivery, improve continuity, and allow for more focused expertise in both teams. This ensures that families can access the right help, in the right place, at the right time, whether within our hospice or in the comfort of their own homes.

A highlight of the year has been the opening of The Lounge, a bespoke, purpose-built, space for young people in the grounds of The Ark, funded by the Patel family, Medicor Foundation and the Winter Ball Committee. Alongside this, Joshua Fenton's C6 Garden was formally opened in the grounds of The Ark. The garden formed part of the Container Gardens section of the 2025 RHS Chelsea Flower Show and was awarded the coveted Silver-Gilt Medal.

Our community has once again shown remarkable generosity and spirit through standout fundraising

events such as the inaugural Question of Sport attended by a host of sporting stars and our first Joyful Voices concert co-hosted by internationally renowned soprano, Carly Paoli. These events not only raised vital funds but also brought people together in celebration of the children and families we serve.

We were also honoured to welcome Stephen Kinnock, Minister of State for Care, for a tour of The Ark and to speak to staff and a family who receive our care. Whilst at The Ark, Minister Kinnock made an important announcement about the future of funding for Children's Hospices, pledging that they will continue to receive £80 million over three years. The visit was an important recognition of the essential role Noah's Ark plays whilst also highlighting the £310 million funding gap in children's palliative care.

None of this would have been possible without the dedication of our staff, volunteers, and supporters. Together, we are shaping a future for Noah's Ark that goes beyond exceptional care, creating meaningful moments filled with connection, magic and joy.

Sophie Andrews

Sophie Andrews OBE
CEO, Noah's Ark Children's Hospice

“ Noah's Ark gives us so much more than care. They give us joy, space to breath, and opportunities we never thought possible. They give us time together as a family and a community who cares. We'd be lost without them. ”

Roscoe, Dad to Ray and Arthur who are supported by Noah's Ark

OUR MODEL OF CARE

Individuality



Flexibility



Family focused



Empowerment



Holistic



OUR JOURNEY

The last two decades have been quite a journey. Whilst a lot has changed, what hasn't is our unwavering dedication to being there for children and families, and putting their needs at the centre of all we do.

Our focus on the needs of children and families has fuelled the expansion of our services. We offer one of the widest range of services in the children's hospice sector.



- **1999** Local businessman Michael McInerney establishes Noah's Ark following the death of a child in his family.
- **2006** Noah's Ark becomes the first ever children's hospice to provide a Home Support Volunteer service.
- **2015** The £10m 'Building The Ark' appeal is launched.
- **2019** The grand opening of The Ark, our purpose built, state-of-the-art children's hospice.
- **2020** We continue to support children during the COVID-19 pandemic, allowing families with a child at the end of their life to stay together.
- **2023** Noah's Ark receives its first 'outstanding' rating from the Care Quality Commission. We open our first holiday lodge on Mersea Island offering a week's free stay to families.
- **2024** We open our second holiday lodge offering a week's free stay to families. We also build The Cabin, our private counselling space in the grounds of The Ark.
- **2025** The Lounge, a new dedicated space opens for young people at The Ark.
- **2026** We mark our 20th anniversary of providing support to babies, children and young people who are seriously unwell, and their families.



“ The Ark has been a godsend for us, a place where strangers really have become family. ”

Mohamed, Dad to Leela who is supported by Noah's Ark

NOAH'S ARK CHILDREN'S HOSPICE TODAY

We are proud of the charity we are today. Each year, we reach more children and families, shaping our support around their needs by listening carefully and evolving the way we deliver our services – both at The Ark and in our catchment area.

Our care now extends further into the community than ever before. Alongside the support we provide at our hospice building, we work with families in their homes and alongside NHS teams in hospitals, ensuring children receive expert, compassionate care wherever they feel most comfortable.

Partnership remains central to everything we do. By working closely with NHS Trusts, local authorities and other charities, we strengthen the support available to families and continue to grow our impact. Our team has expanded to reflect this, with 106 dedicated staff members (an increase of 7% from last year) across clinical care, holistic care and support roles, all working together to deliver specialist services to children and families.

THE ARK:

The Ark remains at the heart of our service: a welcoming home-from-home, set within a peaceful nature reserve. Flooded with natural light, The Ark offers a calm and uplifting space for children and families. At Woodlands, our dedicated bedroom wing, children can stay for step-down care (when they are well enough to leave hospital but not yet ready to return home), short breaks, urgent care and end-of-life care.

Designed with families in mind, The Ark provides comfortable accommodation so loved ones can stay close. Children can explore spaces created just for them – from our sensory room and soft play to the accessible outdoor playground. However families come to us, whether at The Ark, in hospital or at home, they are met with warmth, compassion and the support they need to be together.

WHERE WE PROVIDE OUR CARE:

We can provide care where it works best for families:

2,266

visits to family homes

1,930

visits in the community (including hospitals)



“ Noah's Ark became a lifeline for our family during one of the hardest times of our lives. Noah's Ark supported us at a time when so much of normal family life wasn't possible. When the world felt overwhelming, Noah's Ark was somewhere we felt safe, understood and able to just be a family again. ”

Hina, Mum to Mia and Dylan who are supported by Noah's Ark

A MOMENT OF IMPACT IN 2025

We obtained an AV1 robot to enable a child to attend school virtually. From their hospital bed, they could stay connected to lessons, friendships and daily school life – maintaining a sense of normality, connection and belonging during an incredibly challenging time.



OUR IMPACT IN KEY NUMBERS

The demand for our services is great; working in collaboration with healthcare professionals and engaging with our community to raise vital funds, we aim to support even more families.

IN 2025/2026 WE SUPPORTED:

459

babies, children and young people who are seriously unwell – an increase of 20% from last year

453

siblings, and

617

parents and carers

1,529

people overall



THE LAST YEAR IN NUMBERS:

34,114 hours of clinical care

165 events for families including events for bereaved families

483 individuals benefited from music, art and drama therapy and specialist play

26 children stayed in our Butterfly Suite after they died

151 bereaved families supported

We welcomed **102** new families to Noah's Ark



OUR REACH

Since we began offering services the number of children who could benefit from our support has significantly grown.

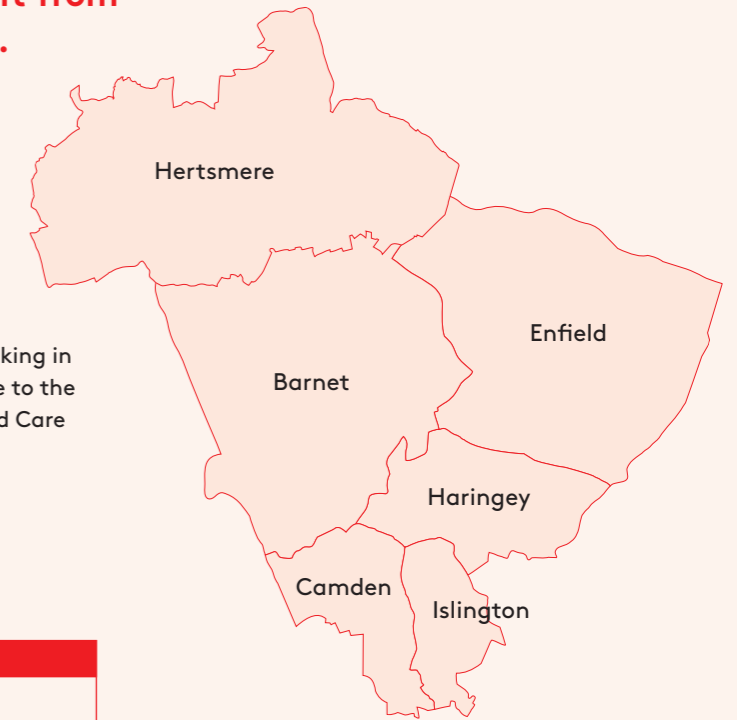
The number of children in England living with life-threatening or life-shortening conditions has more than doubled between 2001/02 and 2017/18*. This is largely due to medical advancements, meaning that children who in the past would have died sooner, are now living longer.

In addition to our core-geographical area, we also support children and families in North West London, working in collaboration with Shooting Star Hospice and in response to the newly merged West and North Central London Integrated Care Board (ICB).

We now support more people than ever before.

*'Make Every Child Count', Fraser et al 2020

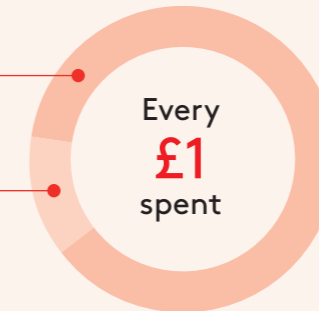
OUR CATCHMENT AREA:



HOW OUR MONEY WAS SPENT:

83p went to our work

17p went to raising the next £1



For every £1 spent: 83p went towards charitable purposes, so we can provide the very best care for babies, children and young people and their families. The remaining 17p went towards raising the next £1.

“Noah's Ark have gone above and beyond for us and made our lives feel a little less like they've fallen apart.”

Bekki, Mum to Jaylah, Lexie, Savannah, Alayah, and Ronnie, who died in 2022

A Moment of Impact in 2025

We secured a grant to provide a bed for a child whose family had been given very short notice to leave a furnished property. This ensured the child had a safe, comfortable place to sleep at home during a time of sudden and significant change.



FAMILY LINK

Our award-winning Family Link team is the first point of contact for families. Following an initial assessment, the team then tailor their support to the individual needs of the child and their family. They provide emotional and practical support, such as signposting, advocacy and welfare advice.

The team provide ongoing support for the family, which allows the opportunity to build positive, trusting and cooperative relationships with families. A vital bond for the families they support, the team are there for the family on every step of their journey.

IN 2025/2026:

We carried out **191** assessments

Strengthening partnerships and advocacy has remained a key focus this year.

HIGHLIGHTS INCLUDE:

- Widening partnerships across health, education and the voluntary sector, while sharing our expertise through visits and training for professionals including A&E doctors and Hertfordshire School Nurses. This has deepened understanding of our 24/7 model of care and created new opportunities to support families both in the community and at The Ark.
- Continuing to advocate tirelessly for families, unlocking vital support and overcoming barriers – from securing a wheelchair for a child after a four-year wait to securing a grant to buy a bed for a family in crisis.
- Responding to increasing challenges faced by families, including limited access to suitable housing, transport barriers and a growing need for interpreter support, adapting our services to meet these needs, ensuring families can access care and feel supported, regardless of their circumstances.
- Championing children and young people's education, working closely with schools and professionals to ensure they can continue learning – including enabling a young person to sit their A Levels with appropriate adjustments and progress to university.
- Maintaining a high number of applications to partner charities, completing 104 this year to access specialist equipment, financial support and quality of life enhancements not otherwise funded, despite increasing pressures across the sector. The team's persistence ensures families receive the support they need.



“ I didn't know where to turn. We were then referred to Noah's Ark and introduced to Maria (Family Link Worker) and it has made such a difference to our lives. Noah's Ark focus on us as a whole family. Maria is always messaging us to check if we're OK or if we need anything, we have family members that don't even do that, and it makes a massive difference. ”

Lucy, Mum to Leela who is supported by Noah's Ark

A Moment of Impact in 2025

The team organised a charity ambulance to transport a teenager at the end of their life to The Ark. Facilitating a simple but precious moment: to watch a film in our cinema room with her boyfriend, together when it mattered most.



SPECIALIST CARE AND NURSING

Our Specialist Carers (Healthcare Assistants) and Nurses do all they can to help alleviate pain, create memories, and allow those they support to enjoy life as children – rather than as patients.

IN 2025/2026:

We provided

34,114

hours of clinical care, an increase of 11% from last year

We provided

540

respite overnight stays at The Ark, an increase of 200% from 2024/2025

EXTENDING CARE BEYOND THE ARK:

In response to growing demand, our new Clinical Care Model is enabling more families to receive care in the place they choose – at home or at The Ark. Our outreach work continues to support earlier referrals and stronger pathways, underpinned by ongoing education with partners including Great Ormond Street Hospital (GOSH), University College London Hospital (UCLH), Barnet and the Royal Free Hospitals, alongside training delivered to A&E and neonatal teams.

EXPANDING ACCESS TO CLINICAL CARE:

We strengthened our clinical leadership with the appointment of a second Clinical Services Manager and the development of our Clinical Care Model. This includes enhanced support for children with complex and deteriorating conditions through closer joint working with hospital and community teams.

Woodlands (our children's wing at The Ark) now operates a 24/7 service, providing short breaks and end-of-life care throughout the week. Alongside this, our dedicated Community Team delivers borough-based nursing, with named nurses across our catchment area. Together, these developments enable us to reach more children and give families greater choice about where they receive care.

BUILDING A SKILLED, SUSTAINABLE WORKFORCE:

We have continued to grow and strengthen our nursing team, introducing more flexible and part-time roles to support recruitment and retention. Alongside this, we have prioritised upskilling through targeted training, including simulation-based learning and specialist study days in ventilation, enteral feeding, and seizure management.

As we support children with increasingly complex needs, staff developing new competencies work alongside experienced colleagues in a supernumerary capacity, ensuring safe practice, structured learning and clear competency sign-off within a supported environment.

LEADING, LEARNING AND INFLUENCING:

We continue to extend our impact through education, research and international collaboration. This year, we delivered and hosted specialist training for paediatric professionals across London, welcomed UK and international clinicians, and contributed to the Global Treehouse Foundation's Magnify programme. Our work was also shared at the European Association for Palliative Care Congress, helping to shape best practice and improve care for children and families beyond Noah's Ark.



A Moment of Impact in 2025

We adopted our new 24/7 clinical care model in November, two months earlier than planned, in response to increased demand for end-of-life care at The Ark.



CREATIVE THERAPIES

Our Music, Drama and Movement, and Art Therapy sessions are designed to support a child's development, encourage play opportunities, and help them express themselves. From multi-sensory storytelling to specialist bereavement groups, families are supported to express themselves, process experiences and connect with others in ways that feel right for them.

IN 2025/2026:

3,596

total hours of creative therapy provided, a 58% increase from last year

559

people benefited from our creative therapies, over double the number of people we supported last year

THIS INCLUDED:

1,671

hours of Music Therapy, including 220 hours of Neonatal Music Therapy

990

hours of Drama and Movement Therapy

935

hours of Art Therapy

CREATING SPACES FOR BEREAVEMENT AND PEER SUPPORT:

We have expanded our support for bereaved families through groups such as our Creative Parents Group and Music and Mixed Media for siblings. These sessions provide safe, therapeutic spaces to share experiences, build connections and reduce isolation – with sibling groups doubling in size this year and parent groups growing in response to increasing demand.

BRINGING THERAPY TO LIFE THROUGH CREATIVITY:

Our Sensory Storytelling sessions continue to offer inclusive, interactive experiences for the whole family, bringing stories to life through

music, play and performance. This year, we delivered 10 sessions, engaging 87 families, with contributions from guest performers including actor Alex Fine, a local steel pan musician and puppeteer, ensuring every child can participate, regardless of ability or communication style.

INNOVATING TO MEET EVOLVING NEEDS:

We continue to develop our therapeutic offer, introducing Eye Movement Desensitisation and Reprocessing (EMDR) therapy in February. EMDR is a specialist psychotherapy that helps people process trauma and distressing memories and is commonly used to support those experiencing post-traumatic stress, anxiety, panic, and depression linked to grief or complex loss. Eight families have already benefited from this support.



A Moment of Impact in 2025

Our music therapist, Allya, worked with Hadice, a ten-year-old, and her family, building a deep connection through music. After Hadice sadly died, her family collaborated with Allya to choose and adapt meaningful songs. These became a heartfelt tribute, performed at her memorial. The family now cherishes the recordings, offering comfort, connection, and a lasting way to celebrate Hadice's life.



“ I was pretty hesitant in wanting to begin EMDR therapy as revisiting life altering events was something I wasn't in a rush to begin but knew deep down that it was a necessity for me in order to move forward with my life. Now that I have begun, my days seem more purposeful, and I have greater clarity in looking forward. The dark clouds are starting to look a little brighter. ”

A Noah's Ark parent receiving our Creative Therapy

FAMILY ACTIVITIES

We continue to bring families together through shared experiences and organise a wide range of activities throughout the year, including family days out, sibling groups, parent groups and Nurse/Specialist-Care led groups for children who are unwell. These activities are a great way for all the family to develop confidence, make new friends and build a community of support.

IN 2025/2026:

We organised **70** events

589 people attended these events – around 25% more people than attended last year



Events ranged from themed Family Activity Days for the whole family to special Sensory Days for the babies, children, and young people that we support. We also organised group activities for siblings, by different age ranges and activities for parents.



CREATING CONNECTION FOR CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE:

We have expanded opportunities for teenagers to spend time together socially, with 20 sessions this year, from Teen Hangouts in The Lounge at The Ark to activities including brunches, escape rooms and trips. These relaxed sessions are helping young people build friendships and maintain supportive peer relationships beyond structured care. We also held our first Noah's Ark Prom.

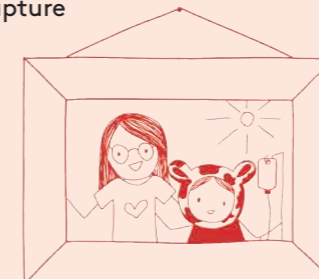
SUPPORTING PARENTS AND CARERS TO CONNECT AND RECHARGE:

Parents and carers have benefited from a growing range of social and wellbeing activities, including spa days, yoga and creative workshops. Our Dads (and Grandads) Group, established in 2023, has grown in popularity, with members now organising additional meetups and outings independently this year - strengthening connections and helping to reduce isolation. Our Mums (and Grandmas) Group has also expanded beyond sessions at The Ark to include social trips such as visits to the cinema and out for dinner, with families keen to match the momentum of the Dads' Group.



A Moment of Impact in 2025

Our volunteer portrait photographer attended two Family Activity events, offering free family portrait sessions and printed photographs for over 40 families. For many, this created a rare opportunity to capture special memories together – moments of connection and togetherness they may not otherwise have been able to access.



“ Luckily the Prom fell around Montell's birthday, so we were able to be a part of that. Everyone was dressed up and it was great to see him in his element. He really enjoyed that day and for me it is one of the memories that I'll cherish for the rest of my life. ”

Glenbert, Dad to Montell who is being supported by Noah's Ark

SPECIALIST PLAY

Our Specialist Play Team believe in the power of play.

By focusing on what a baby, child or young person can do, rather than any perceived limitations, our Play Team support children in reaching developmental milestones, expressing themselves and exploring the world around them.

IN 2025/2026:

2,725

hours of specialist play were provided

137

children with a serious condition were supported, nearly two-thirds more than last year

139

siblings were supported, nearly three-quarters more than last year

Our Specialist Play service has continued to go from strength to strength.

HIGHLIGHTS INCLUDE:

- We are aligning our Specialist Play service with the NHS England Play Well Toolkit, adopting national guidelines and standards to ensure our service aligns with national best practice, supports high-quality play provision and continues to develop in a way that meets the needs of the children and families we support.
- Our Bereaved Sibling Group continues to provide a safe, nurturing space where children can explore their grief through creative play, build connections and feel less alone. This year, our first cohort progressed into the Creative Therapy Team's ongoing monthly support group – a powerful reflection of the impact and continuity of our bereavement support. In September, we welcomed a new group of siblings to the group.
- We are committed to developing the future of specialist play, welcoming a student Play Specialist to the team in September. During this time, they contributed to the delivery of our services while gaining valuable experience and building their professional practice within a hospice setting.



A Moment of Impact in 2025

The Play Team organised a New Year's Eve party for six children staying at The Ark, creating a joyful and inclusive celebration.



Families and staff came together to mark the moment, creating special memory at a meaningful time of year.

“ Play sessions are the only place where I feel happy and not different. It's like my sad bits are allowed but so is fun. ”

A child supported by a Noah's Ark Play Specialist

NOAH'S ARK ON HOLIDAY

We launched Noah's Ark on Holiday in 2023, enabling families to book our fully accessible lodge for a free week's stay.



Going on holiday can be an impossible concept for families who have a child who is seriously unwell – with accessibility being a huge barrier. This is where we can now help. We can offer families often what is their first holiday together. Where needed, we also support with transport to and from the lodge.

Siblings benefit too, with access to a wide range of on-site activities and opportunities to have fun and connect with other children.

To meet demand, we were delighted to purchase a second lodge in September 2024. Following renovations our second lodge was a fully adaptable and accessible space ready for families to enjoy a holiday during the 2025 season.

IN 2025/2026:

56 families went on holiday with Noah's Ark – meaning we increased the number of holidays we could offer families by 60% this year



“ The holiday has been so nice and has shown us how life can be. We enjoyed such beautiful moments as a family. This was our first holiday together... we are so grateful for the impact this has had. ”

The Stars family who are supported by Noah's Ark



PERINATAL SUPPORT

In 2024 we expanded our services to include Perinatal Support meaning we can now offer pre and postnatal support for families from the time their baby is diagnosed with a life-threatening or life-shortening condition. Difficult news about a baby's health can come at any time and our Hospice Midwife can support the whole family on their journey.

We are one of only four hospices in the UK to provide Hospice Midwife support.

IN 2025/2026:

50 families were supported by our Hospice Midwife, an increase of 56% from last year

HIGHLIGHTS INCLUDE:

- Embedding hospice care within neonatal services, delivering regular end-of-life and bereavement training at UCLH, reaching 60 neonatal nurses this year. This ongoing programme is increasing awareness of Noah's Ark and supporting earlier, more consistent referrals.
- Building stronger pathways with maternity and neonatal teams, including planned open days for foetal medicine, midwives and neonatal staff, engaging 19 professionals and expanding our network across five hospitals to improve access to hospice support.
- Leading education and advocacy at a national level, through our involvement in the National Hospice Midwife Group. This includes delivering training at conferences, reaching to 350 professionals, and developing resources such as an antenatal support poster now shared across antenatal clinics in our catchment area.
- Through Children's Hospices Across London (CHaL), we are leading on a London-wide programme to strengthen and standardise hospice care for babies under one, developing a consistent core offer, improving links between services, and ensuring earlier, more equitable support for families across diverse communities.

A MOMENT of Impact in 2025

We are now receiving more antenatal referrals thanks to the stronger connections we've built with hospital professionals, ensuring families receive support as soon as any uncertainty is identified and giving them the best possible care from the very beginning.



TRANSITION

We know how important the transition from adolescence to adulthood is for young people and their families.

In 2024 we extended our services to support children and young people aged from birth to 25, meaning that young people can now receive our holistic and advocacy support beyond the age of 19. We begin transition planning early, ideally from the age of 14.

We only accept referrals up to the age of 18, however young people who are known to us are invited to stay with us after they turn 19 years old.

IN 2025/2026:

57 young people were supported by our Transition Service, an increase of 73% from last year

HIGHLIGHTS INCLUDED:

- Supporting education and employment pathways, working closely with young people to explore university applications, supported internships and volunteering opportunities, as well as providing practical support with CV writing, job applications and accessing appropriate post-19 education placements.
- Introducing our first self-facilitated stay for a young adult aged 19+, marking an important step in delivering more age-appropriate respite care while supporting independence and providing vital rest for families.
- Strengthening partnerships with adult services, including collaboration with North London Hospice to support smoother transitions. This includes the development of "What If?" clinics, creating space for young people and families to explore future care options, ask important questions and begin advance care planning.

“ You [our Transition Co-ordinator] are always the best supporter and having you there next to us gives us more strength to talk about the difficult things. ”

Parent of a young person who is supported by Noah's Ark



A MOMENT of Impact in 2025

In June we opened The Lounge, a dedicated space at The Ark for teenagers and young adults to relax, socialise and take part in activities in an environment designed for them. The space has become a valued hub for building independence, confidence and peer connections.

END-OF-LIFE CARE

Our team do everything they can to ensure the final weeks, days and hours of a child's life are as comfortable as possible.

We provide care for newborns, babies, children, and young people approaching the end of life, whether at home, in hospital or at The Ark.

By taking a holistic approach, we support the whole family to create lasting memories, helping them to be together in these most important final moments.

IN 2025/2026:

42 Noah's Ark babies, children and young people died

We continue to listen to families and adapt our services to ensure children and families are supported in their preferred place of care. Over the past year, an increasing number of families have chosen The Ark as their preferred place in life and death.

Through the expansion of our nursing team and the re-introduction of a 24/7 model of care, we were able to provide end-of-life care for more than two and a half times as many children compared to the previous year.

In total, we delivered 5,469 hours of end-of-life care, over two and a half times the number of hours provided in the previous year. Without hospice support at end of life, families often face more limited choices around comfort, environment and personalised care at these critical moments.

● A Moment of Impact in 2025

During a young person's end-of-life stay at The Ark, we created meaningful moments around her love of beauty, with visits from a nail technician and makeup artist – bringing joy and dignity in her final days.



CARE AFTER DEATH

Our care does not stop when a child dies. Our Butterfly Suite gives families the opportunity to spend time with their child, after their death, whilst staying close by in dedicated accommodation.

We do all we can to ensure our Butterfly Suite is a safe, calming and non-clinical space for a child to stay.

We also offer this support to families of children who were not known to Noah's Ark during their life.

IN 2025/2026:

26 children stayed in our Butterfly Suite giving their families and friends the opportunity to receive specialist support whilst spending precious extra days with their child



BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT

Our Bereavement Support Team understand what life can be like for a family after a child dies, and are here to help them through the days, weeks, months and years ahead.

From help with practical issues such as funeral arrangements, emotional support or simply someone to talk to, the team are there for families every step of the way.

IN 2025/2026:

We supported **151** families

Provided **1,845** hours of bereavement counselling and creative therapy

And ran **95** events for bereaved families, two-thirds more than the previous year

HIGHLIGHTS INCLUDE:

- Our bereavement support continues to grow, underpinned by an expanding network of 36 volunteers who now support across groups, administration and transport for bereaved families. This increased consistency is strengthening capacity for the team while offering families reassurance through familiar, trusted relationships.
- Expanding creative and peer support for families – our bereavement groups continue to evolve in response to family need, including Creative Fridays for parents and creative music and art sessions for siblings. In response to demand, we are also introducing additional evening sessions to make support more accessible for working families.
- We continue to deliver specialist training for healthcare professionals, including sessions at Barnet Hospital and the Royal Free Hospital. Training delivered at The Ark, including within the Butterfly Suite, has been particularly impactful, helping professionals build confidence in supporting families at end-of-life and after death.
- Our annual 'Hang a Star' remembrance event continues to be deeply valued, welcoming 43 families this year, including some who return annually, many years after their bereavement.



Our beautiful Woodland Walk is home to a special memorial garden with butterflies and inscriptions that remember children who have died.

“It feels like a very special place for us to come and connect to Callum and feel his presence.”

Ingride, Mum to Callum who died in 2023

“I don't think I would be where I am right now if it wasn't for Noah's Ark. Losing my babies, was the hardest thing I have ever had to endure. I found myself in a place of deep grief and uncertainty and lost the will to live. Noah's Ark showed me compassion, understanding, and encouragement that made more of a difference than I can truly put into words. They didn't just offer support, they gave my family comfort, strength, and a sense that my family and I were not alone, and we will carry that kindness with us forever.”

Shanan, Mum to Ayden, Skye and twins Amaya and Amelia who died in 2023

A MOMENT OF IMPACT IN 2025

In March we launched a fully volunteer-led Café in the Community initiative, creating new spaces for connection and peer support for bereaved families. The café runs every fortnight in Barnet.



VOLUNTEERS

Our volunteers do something truly amazing – they donate their time to help children with life-shortening or life-threatening conditions, and their families, make the most of every day.

Volunteers support teams across Noah's Ark, from Home Support visits to helping with Family Activities or being a Specialist Care Volunteer enabling children to play.

IN 2025/2026:

202 volunteers supported families

7,641 hours of volunteering, including:

- Over 1,600 hours in The Ark
- Over 1,800 hours in Family Activities
- Over 1,600 hours of Home Support
- Over 900 hours in Fundraising
- Over 700 hours in Specialist Care
- Over 400 hours of Corporate Volunteering
- Over 200 hours of Bereavement Support

This time they give so freely has an equivalent financial value of £113,086.80.*

Our volunteer service remains an integral part of Noah's Ark, with this year seeing significant growth in both numbers and impact across the Charity.

*Based on 7,641 hours x £14.80 (London living wage) = £113,086.80



HIGHLIGHTS INCLUDED:

- Expanding our volunteer community, recruiting 74 new volunteers this year – the highest annual number to date – strengthening support across all our services.
- Growing our Home Support Volunteer service, now at its largest ever with 61 volunteers, enabling more families to access care at home and increasing flexibility for support.
- Developing new volunteer roles, including Transition Home Support volunteers who help young people aged 19+ build confidence and independence, and a team of drivers supporting families with transport in our minibus to our holiday lodges, Family Activity events and The Ark.
- Enhancing support for families through flexibility and responsiveness, with volunteers providing ad hoc care for children so parents can attend therapy and support sessions – access that would not otherwise have been possible.
- Supporting therapeutic and group work, with volunteers now embedded in activity sessions including our monthly Sensory Stories, helping to expand our creative and inclusive offer for children and families.

“ It is a privilege to be even a tiny part of the incredible organisation that is Noah's Ark. Seeing the parents and children interacting with each other is so heartwarming. No two days are ever the same. I feel like this is so much more than your average volunteer role in so many ways. ”

Bren, Volunteer at Noah's Ark

A Moment of Impact in 2025

Godfrey, our therapy dog, began visits in April 2025. His very first session helped a previously hard-to-engage young person feel comfortable enough to visit The Ark – opening the door to support, connection and care that had not been possible before.



THE GROWING UNMET NEED

We believe every child should have the chance to enjoy life, no matter how short that life may be.

Across North Central London, Hertsmere and North West London, an estimated 5,700 children are living with life-threatening or life-shortening conditions. Too often, families are told only what their child can't do. The experience can be isolating leaving parents and carers feeling alone and overwhelmed.

At Noah's Ark we focus on what's possible, on helping children live richly and fully, and supporting the whole family every step of the way.

There will always be children and families who need our support. And with the support of our community, we will always be here for them.

LOOKING TOWARDS FUTURE MOMENTS:

We already have great plans for 2026/2027 as we launch our new three-year charity strategy:

Our Strategic Direction

Over the next three years, our strategy **Every Moment Matters**, focuses on reaching more families earlier, delivering consistently excellent and equitable care, working in closer partnership with health, education and community services, and securing a sustainable future for our hospice. This includes expanding community-based and 24/7 services, strengthening early access and referrals, investing in our workforce and digital systems, and ensuring every child and family can access support regardless of background or postcode. Our ambition is clear: more children supported, earlier access to care, and no family missing out because they didn't know we were here.

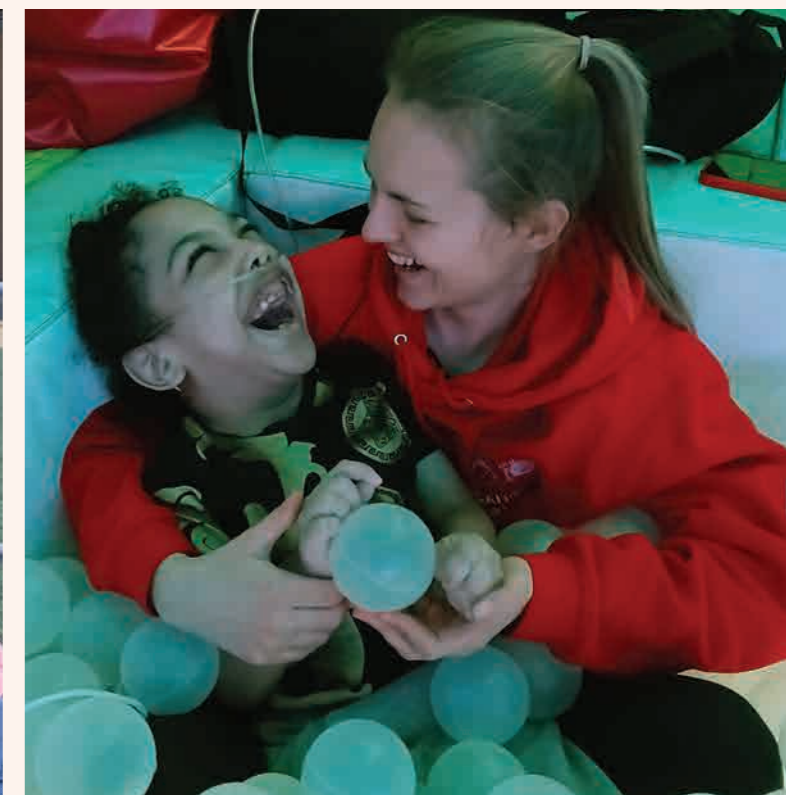
OUR FUTURE, TOGETHER:

For over 20 years, our community has made our work possible. Now, as we look to the future, we invite you to be part of what comes next.

Whether as a supporter, partner, volunteer or team member – together, we can reach more families when they need us most.

“ Noah's Ark makes you feel like they are part of your family, they made us feel that we could lean on them and not be so scared and overwhelmed. ”

Nadine, Mum to Montell who is being supported by Noah's Ark



OUR AWARDS

This year we were delighted to be shortlisted for lots of different awards:

- The Emmas – Rising Star
- Brand Film Awards – Most Emotional Impact
- Charity Times Awards – Charity Collaboration of the Year
- UK Digital Excellence Awards – Standout Charity / Not-for-profit Campaign of the Year
- Third Sector Awards – Best Large Charity Film (Highly Commended)

And we're thrilled to say we won these awards:

- National Fundraising Awards – National Fundraiser of the Year
- Charity Today Awards – James E. Smith Special Recognition Awards for our CEO, Sophie Andrews OBE



National Fundraising Awards
National Fundraiser of the Year



Third Sector Awards
Best Large Charity Film
(Highly Commended)



Charity Today Awards
James E. Smith
Special Recognition Awards
for our CEO, Sophie Andrews OBE



OUR SINCERE THANKS

We've had another rewarding year building our community at Noah's Ark Children's Hospice. We would like to thank all our donors, fundraisers and supporters, without whom we couldn't exist. Together, we can help more children who are seriously unwell make the most of every day. Thank you for helping us on our journey.

We couldn't do our work without the incredible help and support of many other organisations and charities.

A BIG THANK YOU TO:

- | | |
|--|---|
| • Camp Simcha | • Newlife |
| • CHAL | • OSCAR's Paediatric Brain Tumour Charity |
| • Child Bereavement UK | • REACT |
| • Florence Nightingale Aid in Sickness Trust | • Ripples of Compassion |
| • Idiliq Group | • Rule One Productions |
| • Hospice UK | • The Rainbow Trust |
| • Leukaemia Cancer Society | • Together for Short Lives |
| • Lifelites | • Tourettes Hero |
| • Magic Moments | • Young Lives vs Cancer |
| • Miracles | |

SPECIAL THANKS ALSO TO:

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| • Bain Capital | • The Albert Hunt Trust |
| • Invesco | • The Childwick Trust |
| • Medicor Foundation | • The Cranbrook Foundation |
| • Payen Limited | • The Dr French Foundation |
| • Rachel Charitable Trust | • The Fidelis Foundation |
| • St James's Place Foundation | • The Hadley Trust |
| • Starlight Children's Foundation | • The J Isaacs Charitable Trust |
| • Stavros Niarchos Foundation | • The Regatta Foundation |
| • Steve and Liane Hornsey | • The Winter Ball Committee |
| • Taylor Wimpey North Thames | • Wohl Legacy |





NOAH'S ARK
Children's Hospice

SUPPORT OUR FUNDRAISING

As a charity, we rely on your generosity to continue our work.

You could support us by volunteering your time; support us with the help of your company, community group or charity; take part in a fundraising event; remember us in your Will; or make a regular donation.

Find out more at:

www.noahsarkhospice.org.uk/support-us

KEEP IN TOUCH WITH OUR LATEST NEWS



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