

# EQUIPMENT GRANT SERVICE

# RIGHT EQUIPMENT — RIGHT TIME

Newlife knows that providing the right piece of equipment at the right time can reduce the pain a child with disabilities or a terminal illness has to live with. They can be more involved in family or school life, are physically better prepared for hospital treatments or therapies and less likely to need as much medical support as they would without it. Equipment also has an impact on the physical and mental health of the child's main carer, most often Mum or Dad.

## WHAT IS AN EQUIPMENT GRANT?

Newlife understands the challenges families face when trying to get equipment for their child. Our Equipment Grants provide a lifeline to those families, many of whom have been refused essential equipment by their local health and social care services. We provide a wide range of equipment including seating, wheelchairs or buggies, beds and communication aids. Families can make multiple applications as is necessary - we don't put limits on your child!

### A BUGGY FOR OSCAR

When eight-year-old Oscar was treated for Leukaemia, he was often too tired to enjoy the things he loves. It was hard for them to get out as Mum didn't drive and his sister, Jemima, was only two. The family applied to Newlife for a specialist buggy for Oscar and buggy-board for Jemima, so Mum could take them both out at the same time. Three years on and still receiving treatment Newlife helped Oscar again - this time with a brand new wheelchair so he could be more independent.

Oscar's Mum said:

**“HE LOVES HIS WHEELCHAIR. IT HAS GIVEN HIM SO MUCH MORE FREEDOM AND HIS DIGNITY BACK!”**

## HOW DOES IT WORK?

We encourage you to call one of our Newlife Nurses who can talk you through how to apply and the information needed. When ready, fill out the application form, providing as much information as you can about your child's condition, the piece of equipment they need, and how having it will affect their daily life. All applications need to be supported by an appropriate local professional involved in your child's care such as an Occupational Therapist or Social Worker. Once we receive the completed application one of our fully qualified and experienced Newlife Nurses will review the extent of need and assess the associated urgency.

## HOW LONG DOES IT TAKE?

This very much depends on each application. If the Newlife Nurse believes the need is urgent they can 'fast-track' the application and order the equipment the same day, although delivery depends on its availability through the supplier. For comparatively less urgent applications the approval process can take between three and nine months, during which time we may contact you to discuss ways you might be able to help raise the funds through your local community. We also liaise with local health and social care services to see if they are legally obliged to provide the equipment.

## ARE WE ELIGIBLE?

If your child or young person is under 19 years old, resides in the UK and has a significant disability that affects their daily life, including a life threatening/limiting or terminal illness, then they could be eligible for a Newlife Equipment Grant.

## HOW DO I APPLY?

Application forms can be submitted online or downloaded from our website, [www.newlifecharity.co.uk/apply](http://www.newlifecharity.co.uk/apply). You will need to complete your application after you have discussed the child/young person's equipment needs with the supporting professional.

# OUR SERVICES

**WE RECOMMEND CALLING THE NEWLIFE NURSE HELPLINE ON 0800 902 0095 BEFORE APPLYING FOR ANY OF OUR SERVICES:**

## » NURSE HELPLINE

Newlife's fully qualified and registered Nurses are on hand to speak to families through our free national helpline and on-line chat service. They can provide information on local and national health and social care services, benefits and rights, where to turn and how to access support, as well as details on specific conditions.

## » EMERGENCY EQUIPMENT LOANS

Newlife runs the UK's only rapid response loan service, providing equipment free of charge to children who are in very urgent need. This emergency service is for those who just cannot wait for equipment either because the child is at significant risk of injury, has a shortened life expectancy or is terminally ill. We aim to deliver urgently needed specialist equipment within 72 hours to children whose safety and health is at risk without it.

## » PLAY THERAPY PODS

Newlife believes every child has a right to play. The therapeutic benefits are proven to support a disabled child's behavioural, cognitive and social development. We offer pods of specialist toys that are suitable from birth up to the child/young person's 19th birthday that are provided on a free 12-week loan.

## » COMFORT CAPSULES

When a child is given a terminal diagnosis their medical needs often outweigh the emotional needs of the whole family. Newlife's Comfort Capsules include a collection of carefully chosen products for the child and the family, combining practical products with items that enable the family to make lasting memories of their child.

## » CHILD CENTRED COLLABORATION

We lobby local and central government to improve the services and support available for disabled and terminally ill children, as well as investing in pioneering medical research in order to develop treatments for genetic birth defects that remain the main cause of childhood disability in the UK.

# 0800 902 0095

(Free from UK mobiles and landlines)

Lines open Monday - Friday 9:30am - 5pm

& Wednesdays until 7pm plus 24 hour answerphone

 [www.newlifethecharity.co.uk](http://www.newlifethecharity.co.uk)

 [Facebook.com/newlifethecharity](https://www.facebook.com/newlifethecharity)

 [Twitter.com/@newlifethecharity](https://twitter.com/@newlifethecharity)

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