

Our Highlights

2022



About Newlife

Newlife is a national disability charity, supporting children and families across the UK.

Founded 30 years ago we are now the largest charitable provider of specialist equipment for children and young people with disabilities in the UK.

Our services and activities are developed by listening to families, supporters and health professionals.

We know that we can do so much more by working together and this report reflects what we achieved in 2022.



Our vision

is that every disabled or terminally ill child and their family get the equipment they depend on, the quality of life they deserve, the caring support they need and the chance to benefit from pioneering medical research.

Our mission

is to make life better for thousands of disabled and terminally ill children and their families.

Our values

are to put people at the heart of what we do, to be compassionate, to make things happen for those we serve and to be leaders in our field.

Our services

Learn & Play Equipment

Newlife's Play Therapy Pods give disabled children from across the UK the chance to learn and smile. Our free loans of specialist toys improve learning and help children gain crucial key skills that support them through life. They help children interact with parents, carers, siblings and friends and support smiles – which in the face of painful or debilitating conditions can be rare.

In 2022 we provided **1,306** toy pods to disabled children.



Specialist Equipment Service

Newlife's equipment service provides the best for each child. Specialist equipment provides comfort, relief from pain and helps to prevent existing conditions worsening, whilst also enabling each child to be independent and socially included. Equipment also enables children to access education and get around every day.

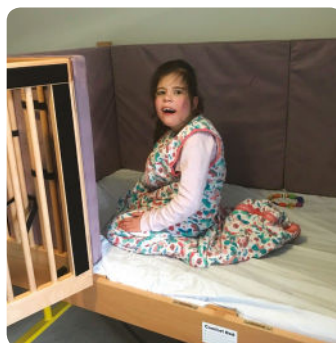
In 2022 we helped **972** children with specialist equipment.



Emergency Equipment Loan service

Newlife's equipment loans help the most at risk disabled and terminally ill children and their families – children who, for whatever reason, simply cannot wait for vital equipment. Our unique service covers the whole of the UK, delivering equipment nationwide within 72 hours after an application is received.

In 2022 we helped **387** children in crisis.



Information and carer support for families

Newlife is here to help every family – whether they are struggling with a recent diagnosis or facing day to day challenges surrounding their child's disability or illness, we can offer support. Our dedicated helpline is run by specialist nurses who are there to help families really in need.

In 2022 we dealt with **9,308** helpline contacts.



Our impact in 2022

3,029

the number of applications we received for support across our equipment and play services



448

specialist equipment items, in our emergency equipment loan suite for families to loan in an emergency including beds, buggies, and hoists

2,581

the number of children we helped with specialist equipment, equipment loans and sensory toy loans

92

we gave equipment to children who were in need in 92 of the 104 counties in the UK

55%

of families receiving specialist equipment were from low income households

9 / 10

families said that they wouldn't have received essential equipment without Newlife's support

97%

of families receiving equipment said they were satisfied or very satisfied with our service



88%

of families told us their child is now safe as a result of being provided with the specialist equipment they applied for

Our impact in 2022

387

children were provided with help in an emergency with an equipment loan

7

the average age of a child receiving specialist equipment from Newlife

£1,900

is the average cost of a piece of specialist equipment we provided

£1.8m



the value of the specialist equipment we provided to families in 2022

972

children received specialist disability equipment such as wheelchairs, walking frames and communication aids, 40% more than in 2021

2,349

the number of families we helped via our helpline providing vital information and support



1,306

the number of Play Therapy Pods we supplied direct to children at home, to support their learning and give them a chance to play and smile

Bringing joy and freedom to children everyday

We're here for children and their families when they need us most, and the stories we receive from them mean so much.

These shared stories are of hope and resilience, they demonstrate how together we can help to change the lives of thousands of families every year.



Oscar and Theo's story:

Both Oscar and his brother Theo have the same incredibly rare neurological condition which means they have a shortened life expectancy.

To make the most of their short lives, parents, Cortney and Stuart desperately wanted to find a way to help Oscar and Theo improve their mobility, learn new skills and, most importantly, create lasting memories and special bonds, as a family – so turned to Newlife's Play Therapy Pods loan service for help.

Now, thanks to the contents of the Discovering Interaction pod, Oscar can develop his motor skills and reach developmental milestones – while Theo uses the Sensory Play pod to stimulate all his senses.

Mum Cortney says she is 'thrilled' with how much the toys on loan from the Play Therapy Pod service have helped.



It is so much more than just a box of toys. It has given us the chance to make lasting memories as a family. Oscar was so excited when it arrived. The bubble machine is one of his favourite toys.



Cortney, Mum of Oscar and Theo

Leia's story:

Leia, aged three, was provided with a specialist seat from Newlife after a kidney transplant, which meant she could recuperate comfortably and happily at home.

Born with a rare genetic disorder Leia has developmental delays, epilepsy, and severe muscle weakness, so she can't sit without support, walk or talk.



She also had kidney disease, but the donation of a kidney from her dad, Tom, means this is happily no longer the case.

Thanks to the specialist seat Leia now has somewhere of her own to sit – and the smile on her face shows how much she loves it!



Although her recovery was the initial reason we needed the P Pod, it's now a key piece in our home. It's easy to move anywhere we need it, even the garden, so she can always be with us.

Tom, Leia's Dad



Michael's story:

A new specialist buggy has made a huge difference to the life of eight-year-old Michael and his family, enabling him to go out and about and enjoy new experiences.

At two years old Michael was diagnosed with a rare genetic condition called Phelan-McDermid syndrome, which means he has global developmental delay and severe learning disabilities.

His NHS wheelchair was only suitable for use on flat surfaces, restricting his family on where they could take Michael and go for walks or days out. But an all-terrain buggy from Newlife means he can be taken to variety of different off-road areas such as nature trails, which are quieter and less stimulating to settle him, and the family find it easier to get out together.



With the buggy from Newlife we go on different walks. When he gets upset, I will pop him into the buggy and he calms down within two minutes of being in it as he feels so secure and settled, it's like a magic pill. It has opened-up possibilities and opens-up the world for us. It means we can enjoy our time together.

Kristina, Michael's Mum




Thank you for supporting Newlife and enabling us to make a difference to disabled and terminally ill children and their families.

Your support is changing lives and helping open up opportunities to a brighter future.

Do get in touch if you'd like to find out more about how you can help further, we'd love to hear from you.

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